

RED HILL SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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12TH NOVEMBER 2021



ACT
Government
Education

Red Hill
SCHOOL

Open hearts • Inquiring minds



Astrolabe Street, Red Hill

Ph: 6142 0960

PO Box 22, Red Hill, ACT 2603

Website: www.redhillps.act.edu.au

Email: info@redhillps.act.edu.au

Leadership Team Overview

Thank you

Whilst we are really pleased to be back at school, this has been a strange term so far. Students and staff have coped remarkably well with significant changes in timetables, specialist teachers and programs, designated play areas, different entries and exits, and the wearing of masks. Parents and carers have also had to cope with staggered finish times and different pick-up arrangements. I would like to thank everybody for playing their part in navigating these changes as best we can. They haven't always been easy, but they have meant that we can keep students as safe as possible in accordance with our Covid Safety Plan.

As community restrictions ease you may be wondering why we haven't changed back to some of our old processes. This is because ACT Health considers schools to be a high-risk environment – consequently we have been asked to maintain our Covid Safety Plan until the end of term.

Transitioning students

At this time of year there are usually several initiatives happening across the school to support the transition of students for the following twelve months. Because of Covid guidelines some of these will look different in 2021.

Telopea Park School staff will visit Red Hill soon to share high school experiences and answer our year six students' questions. Students who will be attending year seven at Telopea Park School in 2022 will also have an orientation visit in week 10. These experiences will help to alleviate the normal anxiousness about the transition from primary to secondary school. However, if you sense that your child may require extra transition support, please contact Heidi Norton (Transition Coordinator) or Nathan James (Deputy Student Welfare).

We had not expected to be able to offer orientation visits for our preschool students who are coming into kindergarten next year. However, we are pleased to announce that this situation has changed recently. In weeks 8 and 9 each Red Hill preschool cohort will have the opportunity to experience a morning in kindergarten. Knowing that 'uncertainty creates vulnerability' (Timperley, 2018), we plan these visits specifically to help prepare students for the following year by allowing them to experience what learning looks like in the early childhood classrooms. Many parents have told us what a success the visits are for their children, who, although a bit anxious when talking about going to big school, also become excited! We are also preparing video clips about kindergarten that preschool teachers can show in their classrooms to support familiarisation.

Unfortunately, we are not able to offer our usual orientation visits for students entering preschool. However, we will be putting together a video clip and social stories to support these students and we will offer family interviews with teachers at the start of the 2022 school year.

Students from Narrabundah Early Childhood School and other schools, who are joining us in 2022, will be invited to visit the school for afternoon tea and a tour of the classrooms and school facilities. The NECS afternoon visit will be at 3.30pm on Thursday November 25th.

In addition to these visits, we will also be offering online interviews for all kindergarten and other new families. This allows us to learn more about your children, pass on information and provide an opportunity for questions.

Returning Students

Because this year was disrupted by a pupil free period and many weeks of online learning, we have decided to keep most class groups intact for 2022. It is likely that we will only be forming new classes for preschool and kindergarten. There may be other slight changes because of the number of classes in each year level, particularly in the senior school, or because of teacher recommendations. We did find that keeping classes constant at the beginning of this year reduced student anxiousness and facilitated a more settled start to school for most students. However, there may be some student dynamics that we have found not conducive to optimal learning. If you have any concerns, please contact your child's teacher or the year level executive teacher so we can talk this through before the end of the year.

Thank you to the families who have already let us know of changing family circumstances in 2022. If your child will not be attending Red Hill School in 2022, please let us know as soon as possible. It is very important that we have accurate enrolment projections so that we can plan staffing and the number of classes for next year.

Kind regards

Louise Owens (Principal)

Remembrance Day



The Red Hill Defence students have been creating some beautiful Remembrance Day craft since the return of face-to-face Defence Club.

Unfortunately, the school was not able to recognise Remembrance Day in the usual way due to Covid-19 restrictions, but a PowerPoint presentation was shown to all the students along with a poem read over the loudspeaker, followed by a two-minute silence, and finished with a playing of the Years 3/4 choir singing 'The Last Anzac'.

Defence families were invited to an afternoon tea held under the new shade structure at the school on Thursday the 11th to create the opportunity to be together on the important day and connect with each other.

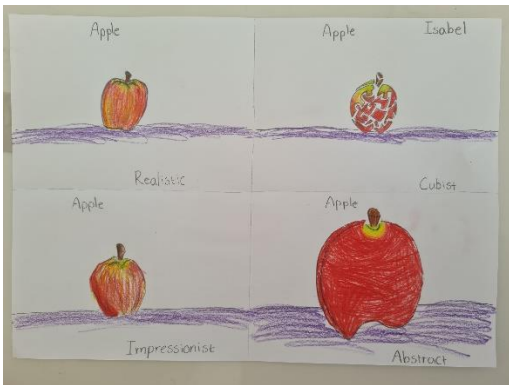


Lockdown Art 2021

During Remote Learning, the students of Red Hill created many incredible artworks using their creativity and materials from around the house.

Congratulations my amazing artists – I loved seeing your work every week.

Mrs. Halliday.



Four Way Fruit Study Isabel



Four Way Fruit Study Lucie



Yummy food, Yucky Food Hunter



The Scream Ruben



Surrealist Sea Creature Isaac





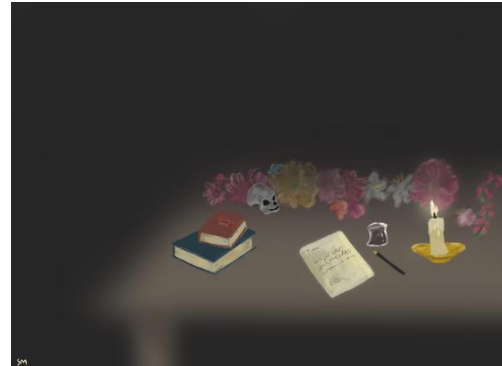
Bogolan Bridget



Mask Alyda



Coincidences Aleks



A Lockdown Table Serah

SRC Xmas Cards

As you may know the Red Hill School Student Representative Council (SRC) supports a Smith Family child to attend school as part of our commitment to community service. Last year the SRC created and designed Christmas cards to sell with ALL profits going towards our sponsored child. 'Bytes and Colours' kindly subsidised the cost of printing the cards. These will be on sale again this year. You can choose to order a pack of 5 or 10. (You can order as many as you like. The more the merrier!)

To pay for your card packs please pay online using the fee code SRC XMAS. The link to online payments can be found on our school website. PLEASE make sure you include your online payment reference number when ordering. Alternatively, you can purchase cards directly from the front office. Once your online order and payment have been received, we will send your Xmas cards home with your child. Be sure to use your CHILD'S FULL NAME and CLASS so the SRC can deliver the cards to your child with ease.

Here is the link to order the SRC XMAS CARDS online.

<https://forms.gle/7S35HwCnVyABkC2NA>

Uniform Shop

DECEMBER 2021

Due to COVID restrictions, the uniform shop will remain closed during term 4. All 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.

COVID Restrictions permitting.... booking days will be between Monday 13th December and Friday 17th December - last week of term.

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.

*Flexischool **order cut off for 2021 will be 10th December.***

All orders placed during week 10 will be delivered between Monday 13th and Friday 17th December.

JANUARY 2022

The shop will open in the Art Room next door to Uniform Shop

Thursday	27th January 2020	9.30am to 12pm
Friday	28th January 2020	9.30am to 12pm

***Flexischool orders will reopen on 21st January 2022.** All orders placed between the 21st and 27th January can be collected during above opening times.*

FEBRUARY 2022

Term 1 Week 1 2021

Tuesday	1st February 2022	8.30am to 11.30am
Wednesday	2nd February 2021	8.30am to 11.30am
Friday	4th February 2021	2pm to 3.30pm

Term 1 Week 2 2022

Monday	7th February 2021	8.30am to 9.00am
Wednesday	9th February 2021	8.30am to 9.00am
Friday	11th February 2021	2pm to 3.30pm

2022 Regular Shop hours to be confirmed and communicated via the Red Hill Facebook page and school Newsletter.