

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Principal's Message

PG. 2

Important Events

PG. 3

Questions and Concerns

PG. 7

Policies and Procedures

PG. 8

**Red Hill School is a Nut
Free Environment**



TERM 3

School resumes

Monday 18th July



Some of the "Junior Green Team" members after a hard morning's work.

NOTES HOME

- Year 2-6 ICAS permission
- Year 3-6 AMC permission
- Market Day
- Year 5 and 6 Puberty
- ThinkUKnow

1ST JULY 2022



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Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

Some years ago, I worked alongside a school volunteer, Jim. Jim had been a lawyer for all of his working life and had never married or had children. After retiring he grew lonely and restless. He searched for opportunities to engage in the community, eventually joining the school I worked in as a member of the ACT School Volunteer Program. Not having had children he was a little tentative. As time went on though his confidence grew. Within a few years he was taking on the most challenging mentor roles I could imagine and was considered a valued member of the school community.

I think of Jim often. He was wise and generous, loved and respected. I have especially been thinking of him this week after being visited by some passionate young girls who have taken action on the playground. I remember Jim looking at me with tears and a smile after he attended his first school assembly. He told me then that he had “new faith that the world would be in good hands”, knowing that the children he had just listened to “were our future”. Like Jim, I share a hope that children like those who came to my office this week will be our future, taking action to make a difference for others.

Concerned by the litter on our school playground a small group of students in years two and three decided to create a “Junior Green Team”. Over the last week they have recruited more members: Freya and Ariella from 2MP; Jana, Elsa and Cecilia from 2KC; and Sophie, Annabel, Olivia and Isha from 3K. During lunch breaks the team has worked hard, volunteering to help Mr. Hosking tidy up the playground. They also requested that they be allowed to speak to the other students about their concerns for the environment. After writing their own speeches, today they courageously addressed the whole school assembly.

They are definitely not the only students I see taking action, but they are a wonderful example of young people who are already showing the ability to be communicators, thinkers and problem solvers.

I think of Jim also because his volunteer work enriched many children's lives and also his own. The school became his new family. If you know a family member or friend who might be interested in taking on a mentor role with young people, please encourage them to contact the school.

Over the past two weeks I have been impressed as well by our year six students' efforts to engage with and support younger children. This has included the sports leaders running a cross country carnival for Narrabundah Early Childhood School and year six classes buddying up with kindergarten classes to read and play outdoor games. Our student leaders have also been checking in with younger children who have reported having difficulties with peers at playtime, offering them help and a listening ear.

I cannot over state how truly amazing the House Captains were. They were so supportive, encouraging and polite. To watch the large group of captains run with [some of the students] at the end was truly remarkable. Red Hill should be very proud

of the amazing young leaders you have. The children, staff and families have come back so happy. We can't wait to join you all again in the future. (Julie Dixon, NECS Principal)

I miss my buddy! (A kindergarten student returning to class a few minutes after leaving yesterday's year six/'kindy' outdoor games session.)

In closing I wish to thank the Red Hill School staff for their commitment to students and colleagues during this challenging semester. I also wish to thank you all for your immense support.

Sincerely

Louise Owens (Principal)

IMPORTANT EVENTS

Red Hill Primary School will be hosting a ThinkUKnow presentation on **18th July**. All parents, carers and teachers are encouraged to attend.

ThinkUKnow Australia is an evidence-based education program delivered nationally to prevent online child exploitation.

ThinkUKnow Australia is a partnership between the Australian Federal Police, Microsoft Australia, Datacom and the Commonwealth Bank of Australia. The program is delivered in collaboration with policing partners New South Wales Police Force, Northern Territory Police, Queensland Police, South Australia Police, Tasmania Police, Western Australia Police, as well as Neighbourhood Watch Australasia.

The presentation will be delivered by a local law enforcement member and an industry volunteer. The presentation is pro-technology and addresses topics including self-generated online child exploitation material, online grooming, image-based abuse, sexual extortion, and importantly encourages help seeking behaviour.

This is a fantastic opportunity for you to learn more about young people and the online environment, and how you can help them to be safe and responsible users of technology.

For more information, you can visit www.thinkuknow.org.au or contact mel.newton@ed.act.edu.au.

Date: Monday 18th July

Time: 6pm

Location: School Library

To allow us to adhere to COVID safe practices and assist with preparation for this event we ask that you please register your intention to attend using the link below. Your assistance with this will be greatly appreciated.

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/think-u-know-parent-presentation-tickets-377023867537>

The logo for ThinkUKnow, featuring the words "THINK", "U", and "KNOW" stacked vertically in a bold, white, sans-serif font on a black background. The letter "U" is partially obscured by a white horizontal bar.



Dear Parents of students in years 5 and 6,

Puberty is a significant time of growth and change that all humans experience, and education on the topic has many positive impacts for young people. To support parents and to coincide with the delivery of Year 5 & 6 Australian Health and Physical Education Curriculum, Red Hill Primary School has teamed up with Sexual Health and Family Planning ACT (SHFPACT).

The school has secured SHFPACT to present a Parent Information Evening around puberty. Parents will learn about sexuality and relationships education, its place in the school curriculum and how they can support their children through puberty and beyond. Common concerns and myths will be addressed as well as tips for effective communication and how to respond to tricky questions and further resources. Information regarding the upcoming year five student 'puberty' workshops will also be provided.

SHFPACT - Parents Puberty Information Evening (Senior Students' Families)

Date: Tuesday 19th July

Time: 6pm

Location: School Library

To allow us to adhere to COVID safe practices and assist with preparation for this event we ask that you please register your intention to attend using the link below. Your assistance with this will be greatly appreciated.

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/shfpact-parents-puberty-information-evening-tickets-377034519397>

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

In week two next term teachers will be offering optional parent teacher interviews. These are a little different to our usual student led conferences. If you haven't already met with your child's teachers, the interviews will be an opportunity to briefly discuss any aspect of their education (social, emotional or academic), ask questions about their end of semester one report and celebrate their successes. (Note: Preschool interviews will be available in weeks two and three because the teachers work part-time.)



Although the interviews are not student-led we encourage all parents and carers to include their children in the interviews if possible. As an IB PYP school we believe that students will make the most personal growth, personally and academically, when *“everyone in the learning community has agency, see themselves as contributors to its strength and success, and take action to affect change”* (IBO, *“From Principles to Practice”*).

Our students are more likely to become effective, self-regulated learners if they are given opportunities to develop the metacognitive skills to reflect on their learning and plan the next steps. Whilst this happens regularly in the classroom through the cyclical process of feedback and goal setting, it is a powerful thing for students to also undergo the process with their parents and carers.

The interviews will be available either face to face or online and can be booked through the PtO system. The default will be the online option. However, you are very welcome to have a face to face meeting at school and can take up this option by sending the relevant teacher a short email. Communication will come home early next week with instructions on how to make your booking.

Event	Date and time	Location
Think U Know Cyber Safety (all year levels)	Week 1 term 3: Monday 18 th July 6-7.30pm	School Library
SHFPACT Puberty (years 5 and 6)	Week 1 term 3: Tuesday 19 th July 6-7.00pm	School Library
Parent teacher interviews (optional) (P-6)	Week 2 term 3: 25 th July to 29 th July	Online or at school
Market Day	Week 2: Friday 29 th July	At school
Book Week Virtual Book Fair	Week 6 term 3: August 22 nd -26 th	Online
Book Week Walkathon and Parade	Week 6 term 3: Friday August 26 th 9.30am-11am	Around the block!
Learning Journeys (P-5) ¹	Weeks 6-10 term 3	Classrooms

OPTIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHALLENGE

At Red Hill School we offer a range of optional competitions to allow students the opportunity to extend themselves academically and take up a personal challenge.

The first competition offered is the Australian Mathematics Competitions (AMC) run by the Australian Maths Trust and is available to students in years 3 to 6. Students are asked to solve 30 problems in 60 minutes. Problems are linked to students' everyday lives and the national curriculum. The problems are completed online, are uniquely designed and get more challenging as the competition progresses, so students of all abilities will be challenged and inspired.

The second series of competitions on offer are the International Competitions and Assessments tasks (ICAS) run by the University of NSW. ICAS is designed to target students' higher-order thinking and problem-solving skills in different learning areas.

Red Hill School will be offering assessments to year 2 students in English and mathematics; year 2 to year 6 students in science; and year 3 to year 6 students in writing. All competitions are now online, a move that reflects a sector-wide transition to computer-based assessment.

Notes for the AMC and ICAS have been handed to students and emailed to parents. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the school at info@redhillps.act.edu.au.

Vickie Larnach and Kristy McCumiskey (Coordinators)

¹ Year 6 will hold their Exhibition in term 4.

NAIDOC WEEK

Don't forget NAIDOC Week which takes place during the school holidays.

National NAIDOC Week celebrations will be held across Australia in the first week of July to celebrate and recognise the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

NAIDOC Week is an opportunity for all Australians to learn about First Nations cultures and histories and participate in celebrations of the oldest, continuous living cultures on earth.

Our school will celebrate NAIDOC Week in many different ways next term.

NAIDOC WEEK
3-10 JULY 2022
#NAIDOC2022 #GetUpStandUpShowUp

facebook.com/NAIDOC
@naidocweek
@naidocweek

Stronger, Ryhia Dank (Nardurna)
I created this piece after reading this year's NAIDOC theme. I knew straight away I wanted to do a graphic piece centred around our flags with text highlighting what we have been through and are still fighting for. I feel that this piece being black and white allows us to focus on the detail and messages in the artwork.

In this artwork I have little bits of me and my family. I have included a crocodile for my late granny. She was one of the strongest women I know and was never afraid to speak her mind and stand up for family and Country. I have also included my family's dancing stick, this is a present as a reminder that we will always have our Country, Kin and Culture. There are also symbols to represent us as a community. People gathered around a camp, a spear and woomera to represent our strength, water, trees, animal tracks and non-human entities to show our connection to Country.

NAIDOC Week 2022 artwork by Ryhia Dank (Nardurna) is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International License. For more information visit <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/>

naidoc.org.au

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. This is usually the best option to start with. 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 2-3 2022			
Kindergarten – Year 1	Debra Lawrence	Preschool	Kristy Aitchison
Year 2	Nathan James	Student Welfare & LSU	Nathan James
Year 3	Dave Corcoran		
Year 4	Kristy Aitchison	Specialist Team	Helene Halliday
Year 5	Louise Owens	Front Office	Cheryl Gillett
Year 6	Nghi Perrim		


Education


Do you need help with an enquiry or concern?

TALKING WITH YOUR SCHOOL

WHERE DO YOU START?

Step 1. Make an appointment with your school via phone or email.

Contact your school's front office to make an appointment with the most appropriate person. Alternatively, you can write or email the school about your concerns.

Step 2. Discuss your enquiry or concern with the class or executive teacher.

Provide all relevant information, discuss possible outcomes for addressing your enquiry/concern, and settle on an option that can be achieved with input from you, the teacher and your child.

Step 3. Discuss your enquiry or concern with the principal.

Contact the principal if you were not able to achieve a satisfactory response with the class or executive teacher, or if your concern relates to the conduct of a school staff member.

If your concern remains unresolved, you may wish to contact the Families and Students, Complaints and Feedback Unit using the online contact form at www.education.act.gov.au/contact_us or call 6205 5429.

At any time, you may approach any of the following external agencies relating to:

Imminent danger of a child or yourself:
ACT Police 000 or 131 444

Child protection:
Community Services
Directorate 1300 556 729

Policy and Procedures

VOLUNTEERS AND VISITORS IN SCHOOLS

Nomination and Signing In

Our school greatly values the partnerships we have with families and community organisations. Parent contributions to student learning are essential to the school's operation. If you or another family member e.g., a grandparent, would like to volunteer in any way, we would welcome your involvement. Some ideas include:

- listening to students read
- attending excursions and camps
- helping with art activities
- sharing experiences and knowledge to support a line of inquiry in a unit
- assisting canteen staff
- helping the library staff covering and shelving books, and/or
- coaching a sports team.

If you are interested in volunteering at school, please contact the front office or your child's class teacher.

Volunteers are required to:

- complete a nomination form each year (available from the front office)
- sign in each time at the front office (it is our responsibility to know who is in the school for the daily safety of the children and for your own safety in an evacuation)
- hold a current Working with Vulnerable People card (see below), and
- abide by the Volunteers and Visitors in Schools code of conduct (available from the front office).

Working with Vulnerable People

All volunteers and other visitors are required to hold an appropriate Working with Vulnerable People registration with the Office of Regulatory Service to engage in activities involving contact with children (unless exempt). The registration is very simple and quick, can be completed at any Canberra Shop Front, is free for volunteers and only needs to be done every three years. Once you have received your WWVP card, please call in to the front office so we can record the registration number.

Where can I get more information?

[Working with vulnerable people \(WWVP\) registration \(act.gov.au\)](http://act.gov.au)

Do I need to register?

Do you help the teacher every Monday with reading? **You will require registration** because:

- it is a regulated activity
- there is contact with vulnerable people
- contact is reasonably to be expected and is not incidental to engaging in the activity, and
- you are engaging more than 3 times per month/7 times per year.

Do you support the teacher on a very occasional basis, averaging once every two months?

You will not require registration, even though:

- it is a regulated activity
- there is contact with vulnerable people; and contact is expected and is not incidental

BECAUSE you do not engage in the activity more than 3 times per month or 7 times per year.

Are you attending a concert, sports carnival or assembly? Are you on the School Board?

You will not require registration.

STUDENT INJURY, INSURANCE AND AMBULANCE TRANSPORT

Now that excursions, incursions and camps are a regular part of our school program please be aware of the following advice from the ACT Education Directorate.

The ACT Education Directorate does not provide any insurance cover for injury, disease or illness to students resulting from school activities or school-organised excursions. Claims for compensation are met where there is a legal liability to do so. Liability is not automatic and depends on the circumstances in which any injury, disease or illness was sustained.

As there is no automatic insurance cover for personal injury if your child is injured at school or during a school organised activity/excursion you should therefore consider whether taking out personal insurance cover for your child is warranted.

This insurance might cover contingencies including medical/hospital expenses, ambulance transport outside the ACT, and cancellation of transport/accommodation or loss of/damage to luggage.

The ACT Ambulance Service provides free ambulance transport for students who are injured or suddenly become ill at school or during an approved school organised activity **within the ACT**.

VOLUNTEER INSURANCE

The ACT Education Directorate provides basic insurance cover for individuals registered as volunteer workers in schools. The policy does **NOT** cover volunteers working in schools who are engaged by other commercial or community organisations.

Uniform Shop

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.

