

RED HILL SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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Mrs Owens giving out balloons to celebrate Kindy on accomplishing their first day of school.



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



6th February 2026

Notes Home

❖ Year 5 Camp Cooba



ACT
Government
Education

Red Hill
SCHOOL

Open hearts · Inquiring minds



Astrolabe Street, Red Hill

Ph: 6142 0960

PO Box 4235, Kingston, ACT 2604

Website: www.redhillps.act.edu.au

Email: info@redhillps.act.edu.au

Fee code for Voluntary Contributions is VOL CONS

Leadership Team

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to 2026. Seeing so many young, smiling faces coming through the doors this week has been a joyful experience for staff.

We have used this first week for students and teachers to get to know each other and establish the classroom routines and expectations that will support teaching and learning this year. We are astonished at the maturity students are already showing, especially our year one students who have only had twelve months in fulltime school. Today was kindergarten's first experience of a whole school assembly and the kindergarten students were also super stars, listening respectfully and attentively.

We know that education works best when families, schools and the community work together, sharing different knowledge, expertise and resources to support young people's learning and development. There are several ways that home/school partnerships can support learning and engagement, two of which are listed below.

Parent/teacher interviews and learning journeys will also take place later on in the school year.

THE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN HOME AND SCHOOL

QUESTIONNAIRES

We appreciate that each child is a complex, unique individual and that parents (caregivers) have an intimate understanding of their children. Next week you will receive a student questionnaire. This is an optional invitation for you to share your understanding of your child. By providing this information you will greatly assist your child's teacher to get to know your child and to cater for his/her individual needs at school. We appreciate you taking the time to respond. All information is treated confidentially and only shared with staff on a 'need to know basis'.

If, after filling out the questionnaire, you feel there are still issues you would like to discuss regarding your child, please ring the office to request an appointment with the class teacher. There will also be further opportunities for the sharing of information between teachers and parents at our Information Night on **Wednesday 18th February**.

TERM 1 INFORMATION SESSIONS

At these evenings helpful information will be shared with you about the school and curriculum. Parents and carers will also be able to meet the teachers and ask any 'burning' questions you may have about 2026.

Wednesday 18th February

Kindergarten to Year 3	5.30-6.15pm	"Teacher Meet and Greet" in year level shared spaces and classrooms
Years 4 to 6	6.45-7.30pm	"Teacher Meet and Greet" in year level shared spaces and classrooms

There will also be a short leadership team "Meet and Greet" in the Senior Hall between 6.20pm-6.40pm.

STAFFING SEMESTER 1 2026

PRINCIPAL	Louise Owens	
BUSINESS MANAGER	Marko Tancheski	
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL	Nathan James	Curriculum; Student Welfare 4-6
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL	Antonia McGuire	Curriculum; Student Welfare P-3
Executive Teachers	Debra Lawrence	PYP Coordinator
	Kristy Aitchison	Vickie Larnach (acting)
Preschool Lead Teacher	Ellie Deacon	
Red Hill Preschool	Nicole Lipman ; Steph McConnell	Lidija Trpeska; Cass Mallinson
Griffith Preschool	Julie Ferguson	Bronwyn Beattie
KS	Nicole Smith	
KD	Isabelle Dunlop	
KH	Kate Hanley	Annika Presser-King (Fri)
1C	John Crawford	
1LF	Sue La Flamme	
1MC	Kristy McCumiskey	Karen Spence (Mon)
1W	Kath Winchester	Karen Spence (Fri)
2B	Nigel Byng	Irean Tan (Wed)
2CB	Claire Bailey	
2K	Manpreet Kaur	
2M	Kelly Moore	
2R	Virginia Rosser	
3C	Alison Chesson	
3H	Adam Hambly	
3J	Kylie Jenkins	
3L	Bing Li and Vicke Larnach	
3W	Jodie Watt	
4K	Carolyn Ketsiou	
4N	Tina Nguyen	
4S	Philip Southerton	
4V	Arno Visagie	
5AM	Angus Middleton	
5E	Skye Eddi	
5LK	Leigh Kanara	
5U	James Urwin	
6D	Zac Lawrence	

6H	Ashley Howse			
6KN	Karen Nixon			
6S	Sammi Smith	Fiona D'Elboux (<i>Mon</i>)		
Small Group Program	Kai Cartwright and Libby Howard			
Response to Intervention	Kadiya Bilston, Aminah Kazak and Kim Werner			
Learning Support Assistance	Veronica Ellsmore Leanne Emerson Cass Mallinson Kelly Nash Ivanka Kennedy	Nicole MacPherson Kerry Sturgeon Deepa Walia Joanna Cruikshank Zac Noack		
Specialists Semester 1				
Amanda Dawe (French K-3) Irean Tan & Chad Birks (Mandarin 4-6)	Will Colebatch (PE 4-6; Sports Coordinator) Jeisson Carvajal Rios (PE K-6)	Rose Clark and Annika Presser-King (Arts) Hazel Naidoo (Library)	<u>Preschool Lunches</u> Ellei Deacon Robyn Leatherland Kirstyn Millar Steph McConnell	<u>In House Relief</u> Kirstyn Millar Fiona D'Elboux Rose Clark Irean Tan Annika Presser-King
School Psychologist: Nicole Villatobas (<i>Mon-Wed</i>)				
School Secretary: Nicole MacPherson		Enrolments: Amanda Butz	Finance, excursions and general support: Kirsten Aitchison	
Building Services Officer: Pier Peterson				

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	
Preschool	Ellie Deacon & Antonia McGuire
Kindergarten	Antonia McGuire
Year 1	Debra Lawrence
Year 2	Antonia McGuire
Year 3	Vickie Larnach
Year 4	Kristy Aitchison
Small Group Program	Nathan James
Year 5	Nathan James
Year 6	Louise Owens
Deputy Student Welfare and Curriculum P-3	Antonia McGuire
Deputy Student Welfare and Curriculum 4-6	Nathan James

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

NAPLAN

NAPLAN testing will occur in our school between **11 and 23 March 2026** for students in years 3 and 5. NAPLAN provides valuable information to schools and parents about literacy and numeracy achievement. It supports school improvement processes by enabling teachers to monitor student progress and identify areas of strength and development. All eligible students are encouraged and supported to participate in NAPLAN testing. Visit www.nap.edu.au to see interactive versions of the test and for more information.

NAPLAN and RAMADAN

Unfortunately, NAPLAN overlaps with the Islamic holy month of Ramadan. Members of the Muslim community may observe the period by fasting from food and drink between dawn and sunset, with a focus on devotion and spiritual contemplation. Students therefore may be more tired than usual during the school day. Parents and carers should let class teachers know if this will impact their children and discuss any concerns to identify what support measures are available. Where possible we will schedule NAPLAN tests first thing in the morning to ensure fasting students' energy levels are at their highest.

SAFETY BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL

Students are often eager to connect with friends, arriving at school very early. Please remember that staff begin playground duty at 8.50am and that school commences at 9.10am. This is because staff need time before school to prepare for lessons and attend meetings. If you do need to drop your child off early, Woden Community Services provide 'before school care'. Please also remind your child that, if they arrive at school



before duty commences and experience any difficulty, they should come to the staffroom or the front office for assistance. Students should also be reminded to play in their designated year level area on the asphalt before

school. Once they have entered the Breezeway or black gates they should remain in this area, rather than go to the basketball courts or local shops.

After school each day, a teacher is on duty at the front of the school until 3.40pm. It is important that all children wait for parents in this supervised space and that they are collected by 3.40pm so that the duty teachers can get to staff meetings and other commitments. If a child is not collected by 3.40pm the duty teacher will take him/her into the front office to wait and will ring his/her parents. The child will then need to be signed out by the parent when they arrive. Again, please remind your children that, if they experience any difficulty after school, they can go to the duty teacher or front office for assistance. Woden Community Services and the Paid Tutor Program also provide after school programs.

Thank you for sending your children to school with sun smart hats and water bottles.

Kind regards

Louise Owens (Principal), on behalf of all the Red Hill staff

Important Reminders

Parent Portal Payments Update

Dear Families,

Please remember to take the time to activate your Parent Portal.

From the beginning of this 2026 school year, Quick Web ceased operation, and all online payments will now be processed exclusively through the Parent Portal.

Information about how to make payments using the new system will be provided on our school website under the Payment tab at the start of the 2026 school year. Families will receive requests for contributions via emails or the Parent Portal using a payment link.

The school will continue to accept on-site cash and EFTPOS payments.

Should you require any assistance, please contact the Front Office on 02 6142 0960.



New digital safety rules for our preschool

From the start of the 2026 school year, new digital safety rules will apply in all ACT Government preschools.

These changes help us follow the **National Model Code** and are designed to keep every child safe and protect their privacy.

Parents, carers and visitors may bring personal devices onto school grounds; however, will not be permitted to take photos or videos of preschool students on preschool grounds, including during excursions and whole-school events. Only school-issued devices will be used for photos and videos, and staff follow strict rules for how these images are stored and shared.

We know families like to capture special moments, so you are welcome to take photos at home before or after school, in drop-off or pick-up areas outside preschool boundaries, or at community events.

Thank you for supporting these new rules and helping us create a safe and respectful environment for all children.



Register now for **Parent Portal**

Our school is using Parent Portal – a secure online platform to share information between parents and carers and your student's teachers.



Ask our Front Office team about how to register or scan to find out more.

With Parent Portal you will be able to:

- notify the school when your child is sick or to explain an absence
- book parent-teacher interviews
- receive academic reports
- receive the school newsletter
- receive messages from your child's teachers
- make payments
- access the school calendar and your child's timetable
- update contact details.



ACT

Digital Account



POSITION VACANT: Red Hill School Board Member

The Red Hill school board plays an important role in setting the strategic direction of the school, always acting in the best interest of the school and its students.

The board meets regularly throughout the year. It is made up of representative members from key stakeholder groups such as parents and carers, P&C Association and/or local community members and staff.

Several board positions will become vacant in March 2026, and we will be seeking nominations to fill the following roles in early Term 1:

- 1 x staff member
- 1 x parent member
- 1 x P&C member

To learn more about the roles and responsibilities of school board members, visit the [School Boards](#) webpage.

Further information about the nomination process will be provided next week.

Uniform Shop and Canteen



Red Hill Primary School Uniform Shop

Item	Price
Hat Surf	\$15.00
Hat bucket	\$15.00
Beanie	\$12.00
Dress Summer	\$46.00
Polo Shirt Short Sleeve (green)	\$30.00
Polo Shirt Short Sleeve (gold)	\$30.00
Polo Shirt – Long Sleeve (green)	\$27.00
House T Shirt	\$20.00
Jacket Microfibre	\$50.00
Polar Fleece Jumper	\$40.00
Red Hill Hoodie	\$40.00
Skorts Pleated Cotton	\$26.00
Skorts Gabardine	\$26.00
Rugby Shorts Knit	\$18.00
Short Gabardine	\$22.00
Pants Long Gabardine Double Knee	\$30.00
Track Pants Microfibre	\$36.00
Track Pants Straight Leg Fleece	\$25.00
Socks Ankle Green	\$4.00
Tights Bootle Green	\$14.00
School Backpack (M)	\$50.00
School Backpack (L)	\$53.00
Anniversary Tea Towel	\$4.00
Second hand items	\$4.00
Second hand items unlimited amount	\$20.00



Uniform Shop Opening Hours
Wednesday 8.30-10.00am
and
Friday 2.30-4.00pm

Payment Options: Cash, EFTPOS, Amex, Credit Card (no American Express)

Ordering Online: The Red Hill School P&C Association uses [Flexischools](http://www.flexischools.com.au) for uniform shop sales. It is a cashless online ordering system which streamlines payment, ordering and processing of purchases and events. The system is quick and easy and can be accessed 24/7 from your PC or mobile App on your [iPhone/iPad](http://www.flexischools.com.au) or Android.

Please note the following: -

- For further information and to register please visit: www.flexischools.com.au
- School uniforms orders will be delivered to your child's classroom via their teacher or uniform shop staff.
- Payments by Credit Card or Bank transfer
- Some fees may apply
- Online orders are delivered on Wednesday or Friday of the same week, some deliveries may carry over to the following week.
- Details on sizing, including height, chest and waist are noted with each garment listing.
- Please include your child's name and class (for families new to the school and not yet been allocated a class please enter "New Student" and orders will be held at the front office for collection.

Lost property: Lost property collected around the school is placed in the big blue bin outside of the uniform shop. Items in the blue bin will be sorted and then placed in the adjoining blue and white cupboards for students to look through and collect any of their property that they find. When possible, staff will deliver labelled items to classrooms.

The Red Hill Uniform shop is staffed by volunteers from our parent community who kindly donate their time to help. If you have some time to help, please email rhps.uniformshop@gmail.com



Canteens4Kids ACT Menu

2026

Sandwiches

Served on wholemeal bread unless white bread is requested. Wraps and GF bread also available.

Happy Little Vegemite (with margarine) V	\$3.50
Cheese V	\$4.50
Cheese & tomato V	\$5.00
Ham & cheese	\$6.30
Ham, cheese & tomato	\$6.80
Ham, lettuce & mayo	\$6.30
Chicken & cheese H	\$6.30
Chicken, lettuce & mayo H	\$6.30
Tuna & cheese	\$6.00
Tuna, lettuce & mayo	\$6.00
Rainbow: Lettuce, carrot, tomato, cucumber, beetroot V	\$5.50
Egg, lettuce & mayo V	\$6.00

Toasted Sandwiches (in press)

Served on wholemeal bread unless white bread is requested.

Happy Little Vegemite (with margarine) V	\$3.50
Cheese V	\$4.50
Cheese & tomato V	\$5.00
Ham & cheese	\$6.30
Chicken & cheese	\$6.30
Tuna & cheese	\$6.00
Ham	\$5.30
Ham, cheese & tomato	\$6.50
Gluten-free bread	Extra \$1.50

Fresh Salads

Build your own salad	From \$5.50
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Hot meals

Pasta bolognese DF, H (GF available)	\$7.50
Pasta napoletana DF, H, V (GF available)	\$7.00
Sausage roll	\$6.80
Beef lasagna H	\$7.50
Satay Chicken & Rice H	\$7.50
Chicken tender sub H	\$7.00
Mac & cheese V	\$7.00

Daily Specials

Daily specials available online

Snacks

Fruit salad	\$3.50
Popcorn	\$1.00
Cheesy garlic bread	\$3.00
Banana bread	\$2.70
Jelly cup (made with 100% fruit juice)	\$2.50
Homemade mini muffins	\$2.50
Corn on the cob	\$1.50
Chocolate mousse	\$2.50
Milo cookie	\$2.00
Piece of fruit	\$1.50

Frozen

Frozen juice cup	\$2.50
Twisted frozen yoghurt	\$3.00

V- Vegetarian/GF- Gluten Free/ DF- Dairy Free/H-Halal

Prices inclusive of GST

Red Hill School Calendar 2026 – Term 1					Thurs 29 th Jan – Thurs 2 nd April
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 0 Jan 29-30				29 th January Pupil Free Day	First Day of School for Kindergarten New Students School Tours
Week 1 Feb 2-6	First Day of School for Years 1 to 6 and Preschool Program 1			First Day of School for Preschool Program 2	6 th Feb Whole School Assembly
Week 2 Feb 9-13					
Week 3 Feb 16-20			18 th Feb Information Evening 5-7pm TBC		20 th Feb Senior Assembly – Year 6
Week 4 Feb 23-27					27 th Feb Junior Assembly – Year 3
Week 5 Mar 2-6			4-6 th March - Year 5 Camp to Cooba 25 March		
Week 6 Mar 9-13	9 th March Canberra Day		NAPLAN		
					13 th Mar Junior Assembly – Year 2
Week 7 Mar 16-20	NAPLAN				
	Harmony Week				20 th Mar Harmony Day Celebrations TBC
Week 8 Mar 23-27	NAPLAN				
			25 th March Christian Education		27 th Mar Whole School Assembly
Week 9 Mar 30-April 2					3 rd April Good Friday




CODING


It's after-school fun at your school!



Get creative using design, code and logic to build your own games!

 Tuesday 10 Feb - 31 Mar
3:30PM - 4:45PM

 Red Hill Primary School

 Years 2 - 6

www.codecamp.com.au/redhillps

FIRST TIME TO CODE CAMP?
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Use coupon code **SCHOOL15** at checkout

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Hey Red Hill!

Canberra Youth Theatre is returning to **Red Hill Primary School** with our in-school **Drama Workshops** for young artists in **School Years 1–6**, running on **Tuesdays**.

Our workshops create a welcoming space for young people to **connect, collaborate, and belong**. Whether children are curious about theatre, love telling stories, or simply want to have fun and build confidence, Canberra Youth Theatre offers a **safe and inclusive environment** to be creative and share their voice.

Led by experienced and trained Workshop Artists, these fun, weekly sessions build skills in **voice, movement, collaboration, and imagination** - all delivered right at your child's school.

Enrolments are now open for Term 1.

Book your spot: <https://canberrayouththeatre.com.au/workshops/schools/red-hill-primary-school/>

Give your kids a REAL Challenge!

School Orienteering

SC-ORE

Term 1 - 2026

A fun before school body and brain work out.
4-week Challenge for Primary School aged children^{*)}

Let your child practice map reading and navigation
while having fun with their friends. ^{**)}

No previous orienteering experience is required.

VENUES

8:00am start

Thursday 5th March - Weston Park (Yarralumla)
Thursday 12th March - Lennox Park (Yarralumla)
Thursday 19th March - Telopea Park (Kingston/Barton)
Thursday 26th March - Eddison Park (Phillip, Woden)



Registration closes 27 February 2026

There are no expectations on schools or teachers to organise any aspect of students' attendance.
Parents and carers are responsible for their child/children.

For more info and registration



<https://act.orienteering.asn.au/juniors/sc-ore/>
Or email schools@act.orienteering.asn.au

^{*)} Years 3-6

^{**)} Teams of four. We welcome all gender combinations. However, to win the overall series there must be no more than 2 people of the same gender in the team. Registrations can be incremental.

Why Chess?

- Create Brighter Thinkers
- Improve Student Focus
- Achieve Academic Success

Combines
learning
with fun!



Educational Benefits:

- Improves concentration and focus
- Develops logical thinking and problem solving skills
- Enhances memory
- Encourages creative and lateral thinking
- Promotes discipline
- Accelerates emotional development
- Expands visualisation and spatial awareness
- Demonstrates actions and consequences
- Rewards correct decision making
- Increases self-confidence
- Provides opportunities to make new friends from diverse backgrounds

Red Hill Primary School (ACT) Chess Classes, 2026
Mondays 3:20PM - 4:20PM in the Library

Term 1	Cost: \$161	9th Feb - 30th Mar*
Term 2	Cost: \$184	27th Apr - 29th Jun*
Term 3	Cost: \$207	27th Jul - 21st Sep
Term 4	Cost: \$207	19th Oct - 14th Dec

*No chess on 9th March, 1st June and 8th June (Public Holidays)

To enrol please pay online with your credit card at
www.sydneyacademyofchess.com.au/payment

Enter the code **E8LZ6KH0QH** and fill in the electronic form, with your child's details.

*There are no credits or refunds for missed classes, clashing activities, sickness, school excursions, staff development days, teacher strikes or change of mind. Any missed classes can be made up at one of our online chess classes. Please visit <https://sydneyacademyofchess.com.au/online> for more information. Payment must be made the day before attending the first lesson of the commencing term. The participant will not be allowed to join the class until payment has been received. Joining midway through the term is welcome. Use the payment code above and follow the online instructions.

OPTIONAL EXTRAS (prices exclude delivery)		
To enhance your child's learning experience these items are available for purchase online at the time of enrolment		
Workbook 1 – Cost: \$25 <small>[For Beginner/Rookie Players]</small>	Workbook 1 & 2 – Cost: \$40 <small>[SPECIAL OFFER]</small>	Exploration in Chess Beauty – Cost: \$33 <small>[For Advanced Players]</small>
Workbook 2 – Cost: \$25 <small>[For Intermediate Players]</small>	Chess Set & Roll-up Board – Cost: \$25 <small>[Recommended for All Ages]</small>	Chess Clock DGT1002 Bonus – Cost: \$55 <small>[Recommended for All Ages]</small>
		DGT Starter Box (Fold-up Chess Set + DGT Bonus) – Cost: \$85 <small>[Recommended for All Ages]</small>

Pay for four terms in advance and receive a free chess set or workbook 2. Offer expires 31st March, 2026.



Canberra Academy of Chess
Canberra Academy of Chess Centre, Unit 4, 32 Dundas Court, Phillip, ACT 2606
P: 6281 9108
E: info@canberraacademyofchess.com.au W: canberraacademyofchess.com.au



Hands
Across
Canberra



Canberra Day 2026 Appeal

Together we can reach more locals in need



LEARN THE FLUTE

WITH NARELLE

I have played and taught the flute for over 30 years. I love to see children develop their skills and enjoy music. I teach at my home in Curtin.

Please contact me on 0408115417
or email at narellesmith@hotmail.com

NPL CLUB

U10 - U12 GIRLS

TRIALS - WED FEB 18 - 5PM

DO YOU WANT MORE FOOTBALL IN YOUR LIFE?

OUR JUNIOR PROGRAM PROVIDES AN EXTENSIVE PRESEASON SCHEDULE GIVING PLAYERS PLENTY OF OPPORTUNITIES TO PLAY BEFORE THE OFFICIAL SEASON STARTS IN MAY! OUR SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT WILL HELP YOU REACH YOUR FULL POTENTIAL ON AND OFF THE FIELD TO HELP IN YOUR PATHWAY TO OUR NPLG PROGRAM

Contact @: juniors@canberracroatia.com.au
Register: <https://form.jotform.com/252501553941857>







TERM 1, 2026

RED HILL PRIMARY

SOCCER AFTER SCHOOL CARE!

HOLLIER SPORTS

ABOUT OUR SOCCER SESSIONS

Our After-School sessions are designed to build confidence, develop the basics of football, promote sportsmanship, and most importantly - have fun! Coaches will collect players directly after school, with parent pick-up after our session at 4:30pm.

- ✔ Separate Junior & Senior Classes
- ✔ Fun & encouraging
- ✔ Caring and patient coaches
- ✔ Social skills & confidence
- ✔ Strategy, games & teamwork
- ✔ Skills development & ball techniques
- ✔ Wet weather plan - no cancelled sessions!

For More Information & Bookings

hello@holliersports.com or 0450 078 401
<https://www.holliersports.com/products/redhill-primary-after-school-program> or scan the QR code!



WWW.HOLLIERSPORTS.COM
ENROL FOR TERM 1 NOW!