

# Start of Year Red Hill School Newsletter

## Coming Events

### Harmony Week

17<sup>th</sup> March to 23<sup>rd</sup>  
March

### Down Syndrome “Odd Socks” Day

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March

### NAPLAN

12<sup>th</sup> March to 24<sup>th</sup>  
March

### Early Excursions

Year 2-6 Swimming  
Carnival  
Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March

### Year 5 Camp

Cooba Sport and  
Education Centre

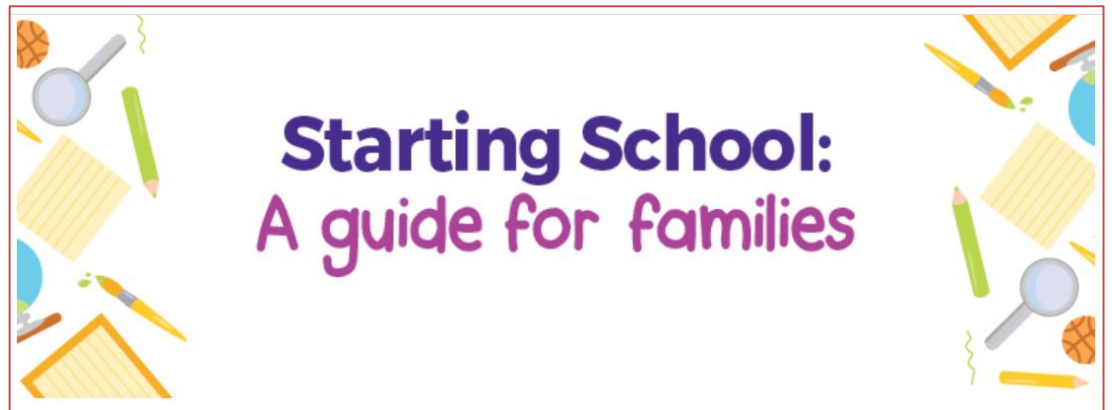
Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March  
to Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March



*Red Hill School is a Nut Free Environment*



Starting school is an exciting event but can also be an anxious time for children and their parents. The information in the link below may help you and your child to prepare for this next chapter in their lives.



## 2025 Start Days and Times

### Preschool Session 1

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February - 9.00am to 3.00pm

### Preschool Session 2

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February - 9.00am to 3.00pm

### Kindergarten

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February - 9.10am to 3.15pm

### Years 1 – 6

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February - 9.10am to 3.15pm

# Contents

<b>Leadership Team Overview/Start of Year Arrangements .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Uniform Shop .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Medical .....</b>	<b>10</b>

## LEADERSHIP TEAM OVERVIEW

**Dear Parents and Carers,**

A very warm welcome to everyone, whether you are new to our school community or returning.

The start of the year can seem hectic, and sometimes a little overwhelming, particularly if this is your first experience of formal schooling or you have just moved to Canberra. We would like to make your experience at Red Hill School a positive one. With this in mind, we have documented some processes to help you.

## START OF YEAR ARRANGEMENTS

**Our Program 1 preschool and kindergarten students started school on Monday. Program 2 Preschool students commence on Thursday.**

### ***PRESCHOOL***

Parents and carers are invited to take children into the preschool setting from 9am onwards and are welcome to stay for a brief time. However, we ask that parents and carers leave after 10-15 minutes. We know from many years' experience that children settle more easily into preschool if permitted to be independent of their parents. Equally though, it will be particularly important that the children are picked up at 3pm unless attending After School Care. The confidence that children build to be away from their parents and carers is quickly eroded if they are not collected on time.

Please note that at the end of the day we do not hand over children to anyone other than a designated responsible adult.

Entry to Red Hill Preschool is through the blue gate next to the French Australia Preschool on Astrolabe Street. However, for safety reasons, if you arrive between the hours of 9.30am and 2.30pm, you will need to sign in at the Front Office and make your way to preschool through the main school building.

If you have further questions about drop off and collection, or other processes, please read our preschool handbook which is available on the school website : [Preschools - Red Hill Primary](#).

## **KINDERGARTEN**

Please drop your child off in the kindergarten shared space between 8.50am and 9.10am (unless they are attending Before School Care). Please collect them between 3.10pm and 3.15pm on the concrete area at the front of the school. Teachers will bring the children to this space and hand them over directly to parents and carers. Alternatively, parents are invited to use the kindergarten 'drive through' system, in which case teachers will direct children to your cars.

**Note: This week kindergarten parents are invited to the classrooms from 2.45pm onwards.**

If you are not collecting your child yourself, please let the school know in writing – for kindergarten students' safety we do not hand over children to anyone other than a designated responsible adult. If your child is registered to attend After School Care, Woden Community Services staff will collect them.

**All students IN YEARS 1-6 have also commenced school.**

Students need to bring a piece of fresh fruit, a healthy packed snack and lunch, a filled water bottle and a SunSmart hat. Book packs can also be brought along this week.

Students can enter and leave school through the Breezeway doors, the black gate to the oval and/or the black gate near the bike racks. Year 4 students may also exit through the blue gates on Astrolabe Street but should not enter through these gates in the morning as the area is not supervised before school.

Parents and carers are welcome to bring their children into the school to drop them off, especially in the early days of the school year. However, if you wish to stay on site for more than 15 minutes e.g., to meet with a staff member or help, please make sure you sign in and out at the front office and let us know beforehand. You are very welcome to help in the classrooms or elsewhere around the school, for example in the canteen or library. We enjoy having family members in the school: many hands make light work! Additionally, you get to see how classes operate, your child enjoys your engagement in school life and the students benefit from your skills and interests.

### **Before and After School Supervision**

The central asphalt courtyard inside the fence is supervised from 8.50am every morning. Before School Care is also available in the Senior Hall and on the Griffith Preschool Campus for families who need support earlier than this. Please remind your children that once they have arrived at school they are in our duty of care and cannot leave the premises for any reason, for example to visit the local shops.

- Years 1 and 2 students are supervised near the inside playground equipment and Play Pod.
- Years 3 and 4 students are supervised in the area outside the staffroom.
- Years 5 and 6 students are supervised in the area outside the senior wing.

There is also a teacher on duty from 3.15pm until 3.40pm at the front of the school. This teacher's role is to supervise students while they wait to be collected by parents/carers or catch a bus. Please make

every effort though to collect your child by 3.20pm and make use of After School Care if you need longer care arrangements.

## STAFFING

We are delighted to have the following new staff members join our teaching team: Kathryn Morris, Stephanie McConnell, Arno Visagie, Hannah Churchyard, Carolyn Kietsou, Kirstyn Millar and Amanda Dawe. Amanda will be taking over from Frances.

In Administration we are also very pleased to announce that our business manager, Marko Tancheski, has been appointed permanently to our school. Mandy Butz has moved into the Enrolments Officer position. Pier, our amazing building services officer, has also been appointed to our school permanently.

## STAFFING ADVERTISEMENT



Do you love gardening and community? We are looking for a keen gardener who would like to work in our school, helping Sebnem care for our veggie garden, check in on our chickens, work with small groups of students at lunchtime, help out with RHIPP and liaise with parent volunteers.

What do you need:

- A current Working with Vulnerable People card
- Registration with the Education Directorate for casual employment
- A love of children and gardens
- An interest in community engagement.

Please contact Louise Owens if you are interested in taking on this role. ([Louise.owens@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:Louise.owens@ed.act.edu.au))

## BUILDING WORKS UPDATE

Over the summer break the installation of new electric heating and cooling and fresh air filtration was completed in the main building. We also installed a water station outside the black fence (near the oval gate) so that students can more easily access fresh water when playing on the oval and families can access water out of school hours. We have painting and Autex installation booked in next along with an upgrade of the audiovisual system in the hall.

Again, welcome to Red Hill School. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to speak to us. And please remember that we want every child to have what they need to start school. If you are experiencing financial difficulty and need help to arrange book packs and/or school uniform, please contact me as soon as possible.

Sincerely

Louise Owens (Principal)

## OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

In accordance with ACT Health and Education guidelines students should not attend school if they are showing symptoms of the Coronavirus (the most common symptoms are fever and respiratory symptoms, including cough, sore throat and shortness of breath) or are generally showing signs of being unwell (e.g., runny nose, cough, headache, high temperature).

If your child tests positive for Coronavirus please advise the school so that we can monitor cases and outbreaks.

### OTHER REMINDERS

- Don't forget your child needs a water bottle and sun smart hat every day.
- Students also need to bring plenty of fresh fruit, as well as healthy snacks and lunch. (Please don't send 'red food' such as cordial, juice, sweets, chocolate or lollipops and remember we are a 'nut free' school.)
- Students should wear school uniform and 'closed toe' shoes to school. Please contact the principal if accessing school uniform is difficult for your family because of financial or other reasons.
- Please ensure you provide a current medical plan if your child requires any special treatment by school staff. Refer to the last page of this newsletter.
- Playground duty starts on the asphalt at 8.50am each day. Bus duty is from 3.15pm until 3.40pm daily.
- Year one students will be escorted by their teachers to the paved area near the "Kiss and Go" area on Astrolabe Street at 3.10pm each afternoon to meet their parents and carers.
- Year two students will be escorted by their teachers to paved area near the Breezeway at 3.15pm each afternoon to meet their parents and carers.
- If you are going to be later than 3.15pm we recommend that your child waits near the bus duty teacher at the front of the school. This includes younger students waiting for older siblings.
- Kindergarten parents can use the *drive through pick up* system in the main carpark. This pick-up area is for **kindergarten students only** because they are our youngest, therefore most vulnerable students, outside of preschool.

### SUN AND HEAT

With high UV levels at present, we ask that all parents and carers apply 50+, 4-hour water resistant sunscreen to their children just prior to dropping them off at school. Classrooms will also have sunscreen available, and students will be given reminders to reapply this protection. Students without hats will be required to play in shaded areas when outside.

Additionally, all teachers on duty have discretion to take students indoors at play time if they feel outdoors is too hot. Similarly, PE lessons will be conducted indoors on very hot days or rescheduled to cooler parts of the day.

## PARKING AND TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

Parking and traffic can be difficult in the afternoon, especially on Astrolabe Street. It is important that all of us adhere to safe practices around the school to keep our students safe. So please don't double park and abide by the parking signage in our carpark and on our local streets.

Here are some suggestions to ease the congestion.

- Consider parking on Monaro Crescent and walking across the park to meet younger children. Consider parking on Carnegie Crescent if you have older children and asking them to walk across the school oval to meet you.



- We encourage older students to walk or ride their bike to and from school. (As part of our commitment to healthy and sustainable living, bike safety and bike riding are taught in our PE curriculum for years 3.)
- If there is a bus service near your home, consider using it. We are serviced by Routes #2020 and #56. There are specific Route # 56 buses that stop outside the school on Astrolabe Street each morning and afternoon so that your child does not have to cross any roads, and a teacher is on duty every afternoon to supervise children getting on the buses.
- If your child is in grade one or above, please don't feel that you must collect your child from the class teacher. If you pull in at the "kiss and collect" area on Astrolabe Street the teacher can send your child straight over to you when the child sights your car. That way you don't have to leave your car and can leave the "kiss and collect" area quickly. If your child doesn't arrive, we ask that you circle the block and return a few minutes later. This way other parents can pull in and collect their children and the traffic can keep flowing.
- Secondly, we have observed that the traffic congestion on Astrolabe Street settles between 3.20pm and 3.25pm. Although school finishes at 3.15pm parents of older children are very welcome to collect their children between 3.20pm and 3.30pm. A teacher is on bus duty at this time and will always keep an eye on your children until you arrive. Quite a few parents have adopted this approach and find it less stressful and much easier to pull in and pick up their

children on Astrolabe Street from 3.20pm onwards. If you think this strategy would be helpful let your child know so that he/she doesn't worry.

## 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	
Executive Teachers	Kristy Aitchison, Ellie Deacon
Deputy Principals	Debra Lawrence and Nathan James
Principal	Louise Owens

## Canteen News

Our school canteen is open Tuesday to Friday for lunch orders and counter sales. It is operated by Woden Community Services (WCS) under the Social Enterprise Program. WCS has been operating since 1969, providing community services throughout the ACT. The school is very pleased to be able to work in partnership with WCS, not just in our canteen but also in providing out of hours school care.

The Social Enterprise program aims to create social impact by providing nutritious food for students and providing employment for vulnerable people with the purpose of positively impacting the community. If you would like to become more involved in your community, read the information at this link: [Get Involved - Woden Community Service](#).

Ordering lunch for your child is made easy via the Flexischools app. Just click on the link, create an account and start ordering: <https://flexischools.com.au/>. Our menu can be found below. (Please note that not all the advertised drinks on our primary school menu are available at Red Hill School.)



# Canteens4kids ACT Menu

2025

## Sandwiches

*Served on wholemeal bread unless white bread is requested.  
Wraps and gluten-free bread also available.*

Happy Little Vegemite (with margarine) <b>V</b>	\$3.50
Cheese <b>V</b>	\$4.50
Cheese & tomato <b>V</b>	\$5.00
Ham & cheese	\$6.00
Ham, cheese & tomato	\$6.50
Ham, lettuce & mayo	\$6.00
Chicken & cheese	\$6.00
Chicken, lettuce & mayo	\$6.00
Tuna & cheese	\$6.00
Tuna, lettuce & mayo	\$6.00
Rainbow: Lettuce, carrot, tomato, cucumber, beetroot <b>V</b>	\$5.50
Egg, lettuce & mayo <b>V</b>	\$6.00

## Toasted Sandwiches (in press)

*Served on wholemeal bread unless white bread is requested.*

Happy Little Vegemite (with margarine) <b>V</b>	\$3.50
Cheese <b>V</b>	\$4.50
Cheese & tomato <b>V</b>	\$5.00
Ham & cheese	\$6.00
Chicken & cheese	\$6.00
Tuna & cheese	\$6.00
Ham	\$5.00
Ham, cheese & tomato	\$6.50

Gluten-free bread *Extra* \$1.50

## Fresh Salads

Build your own salad *From* \$5.50

## Hot meals

Pasta Bolognaise (Gluten-free available)	\$7.50
Pasta Napolitana (Gluten-free available)	\$7.00
Sausage roll	\$6.50
Beef lasagna	\$7.00
Crispy Chicken Sub	\$7.00
Mac & Cheese	\$7.00
Baked Teriyaki Chicken & Rice	\$7.50

## Daily Specials

Daily specials available online

### Snacks

Fruit salad	\$3.00
Popcorn	\$1.00
Cheesy garlic bread	\$3.00
Banana bread	\$2.50
Jelly cup	\$2.50
Homemade mini muffins	\$2.50
Corn on the cob	\$1.50
Chocolate mousse	\$2.50
Milo cookie	\$2.00
Custard	\$2.50
Jelly & custard	\$2.50

### Drinks

Water: 600ml	\$2.50
Juice (orange/mango, apple, apple/blackcurant)	\$3.00
Flavoured milk (choc, strawberry): 300ml	\$4.00
Plain milk: 300ml	\$3.00
Chill J	\$4.00
Sipahh straws	\$0.80

### Frozen

Frozen juice cup	\$2.50
Twisted frozen yoghurt	\$3.00
Quelch sticks	\$1.00
Pineapple ring	\$1.00

Prices inclusive of GST

# UNIFORM

## RED HILL UNIFORM SHOP



### HATS

Bucket	\$12.00
Micro Bucket	\$12.00
Surf	\$10.00
Slouch	\$10.00

### BODY

Summer Dress	\$47.00
Polo Shirts Green/Yellow Short sleeve	\$24.50
Polo Shirt Green Long sleeve	\$24.50
Waterproof Flying Jacket	\$43.00
Microfibre Jacket	\$43.00
Fleece Full Zip Jacket	\$30.00
Cotton Pleated Skort	\$23.50
Gabardine Skort	\$23.50
Gabardine Shorts	\$23.50
Knit Shorts	\$18.50
Gabardine Double Knee Pants	\$28.00
Bootleg Stretch Pant	\$38.50
Microfibre Track Pant	\$33.50
Fleece Straight Leg Pant	\$23.00
Ankle Socks	\$5.50
Tights	\$12.00

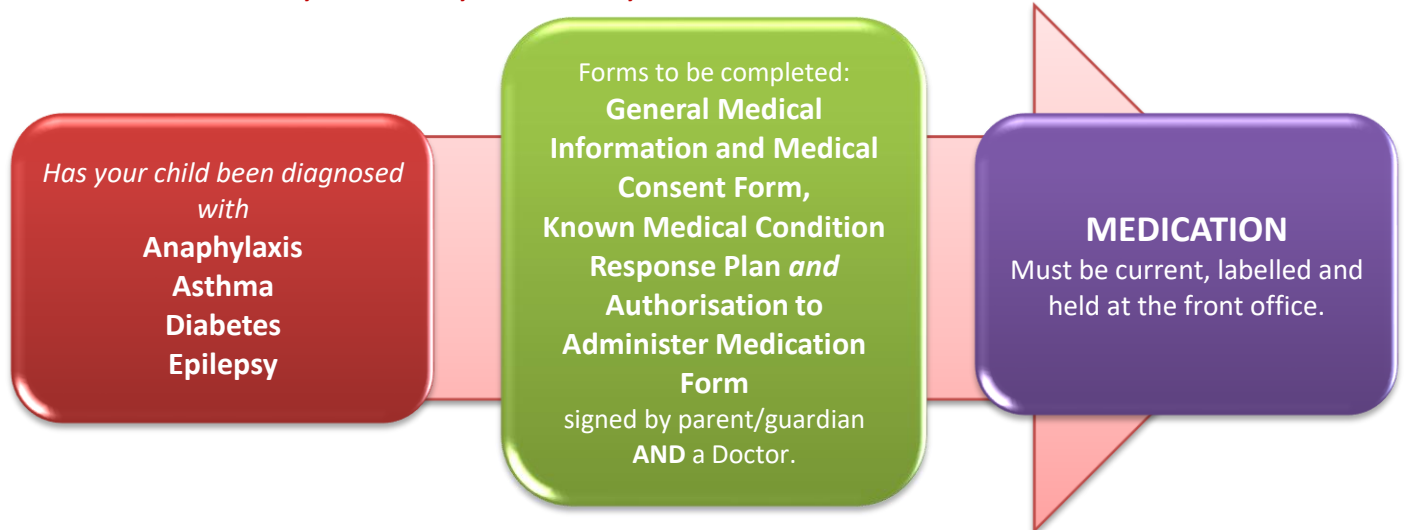
### BAGS

Medium	\$47.00
Large	\$50.00

# The 1,2,3 of Medical Conditions, Medication and Treatment Plans

The ACT Education and Training Directorate guidelines regarding Medical Conditions, Treatment Plans and the administration of all medication to students must be closely followed. The rule of thumb to ensure that we are able to assist your child in the best way we can while at school. At the beginning the school year families are required to complete a Medical Information and Consent Form. Any specialised, individual or temporary medical requirements must be accompanied by additional paperwork.

## 1. ANAPHYLAXIS, ASTHMA, DIABETES, EPILEPSY



## 2. Occasional Migraine, Headache, Hay fever, Allergies etc.



## 3. Temporary Medication for Seasonal colds/flu/Allergies, Antibiotic, Pain relief etc



For further advice and to collect copies of medical forms please visit the front office or contact the front office staff on 6142 0960.