



**ACT**  
Government  
Education

  
**Red Hill**  
SCHOOL

*Open hearts • Inquiring minds*



# Start of Year Red Hill School Newsletter

## Coming Events

### New Families 'Meet and Greet'

#### Kindergarten

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January

#### Years 1-6

Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January

9.30am to 10.30am

Library

#### Early Excursions

**Year 3-6 Swimming  
Carnival**

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March**

#### Year 5 Camp

Cooba Sport and  
Education Centre  
Berridale

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March  
to

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March

#### Year 6 Camp

Coastlife Outdoor  
Education Coastal  
Adventures

Tathra

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March  
to

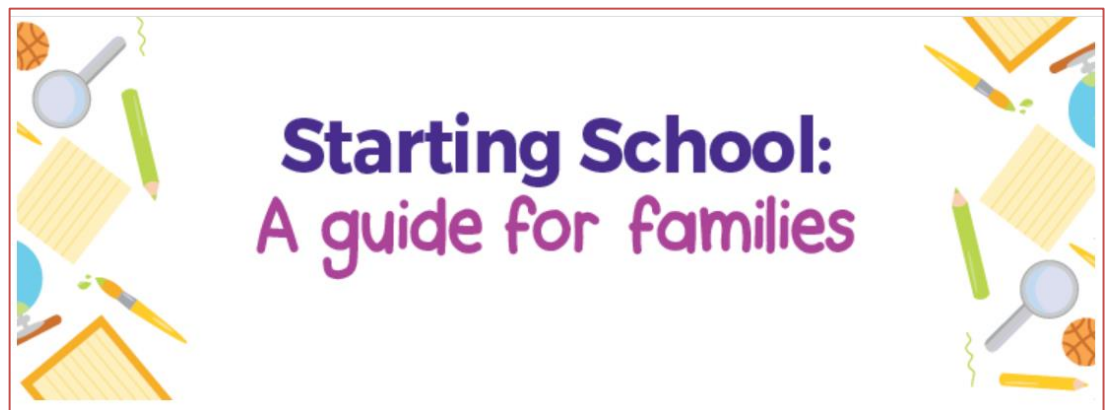
Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March



*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.



## 2023 Start Days and Times

### Preschool Session 1

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January - 9.00am to 3.00pm

### Preschool Session 2

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> January - 9.00am to 3.00pm

### Kindergarten

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January - 9.10am to 3.15pm

### Years 1 – 6

Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January - 9.10am to 3.15pm

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## LEADERSHIP TEAM OVERVIEW

### Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome to new and returning families, students and staff in 2023.

The start of the year can seem very hectic, and sometimes a little overwhelming, particularly if this is your first experience of formal schooling or you have just moved to Canberra. We are here to help make your experience at Red Hill School a positive one. With this in mind, we have documented some processes, so that everyone knows where and when to be next week. Here are the details of these arrangements to go along with the dates and times outlined on the front cover of this newsletter.

## START OF YEAR ARRANGEMENTS

### IMPORTANT

**PLEASE NOTE THAT CLASS LISTS FOR YEARS 1-6 WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING IN THE BREEZEWAY ON FRIDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY FROM 12PM – 5PM. For privacy reasons please do not photograph these lists.**

Individual class lists will also be emailed to parents and carers later on Friday afternoon so don't worry if you can't make it to school.

### VISITS FOR NEW STUDENTS AND STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

If your child is new to our school or has special needs, you are invited to bring him/her to school on **Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January** any time between 10.30am and 12.30pm. Details are provided in the next section.

## MONDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY

### PRESCHOOL

Our **preschool students** will be starting on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January. 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 15 -20 minutes. We know from many years' experience that children settle more easily into preschool if allowed 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.

## KINDERGARTEN

Our **kindergarten students** will also be starting on **Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January**.

We ask families to **make their way to the kindergarten shared area** at 9.00am for a 9.15am start where they will be met by the kindergarten teaching team and year six buddies. Today we sent home class lists and a map -if you did not receive this email, please contact the front office on Friday. Parents are very welcome to stay in the classroom with their children until 9.30am. At 9.30am parents will be asked to leave the classrooms and make their way to the school library where we will be offering tea and coffee (and tissues if needed 😊), an opportunity to meet other teachers and ask any burning questions of the leadership team.

Students will need to bring fruit, a healthy packed snack and lunch, a water bottle and a sunsmart hat. Book packs can also be brought along on Monday or later in the week.

**From Tuesday onwards 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 3pm 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. 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.

## NEW FAMILIES AND STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Between 10.30am and 12.30pm on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January we invite all **new families and students in years 1 – 6** to come in for a *meet and greet* visit. The Executive staff will meet you at the Breezeway, and then year 6 students will take you on a quick tour of the school and your child's classroom. You may like to share information about your family and child that will help us to ensure your start at Red Hill is a positive experience. This is a brief, informal visit so children will not be remaining at school on this day and will not need to wear school uniform.

**Students with special needs are also invited to visit their classrooms and meet their new teachers during this time.**

## TUESDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY

**All students IN YEARS 1-6 start back at school.**

In the Breezeway we will have class lists and a school map. Once you have checked which class your child is in, please take your child directly to the year level shared space where the teachers will be waiting. Student leaders will help you with this. You are very welcome to stay with your child until 9.10am. At 9.10am parents will be asked to leave the classrooms and make their way to the school library where we will be offering tea and coffee, and an opportunity to chat with executive staff and other parents. (We ask that you do leave the classrooms at 9.10am so that the teachers and students can settle in.)

Students will 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 on Tuesday or later in the 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. **There are no longer specific exit/entry points for each year level** (with the exception of kindergarten). 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 out, please make sure you sign in and out at the front office and make an appointment beforehand. You are

very welcome to help out in the classrooms or elsewhere around the school. 'Many hands make light work'! Additionally, you get to see how classes operate and your child enjoys your engagement in school life.

### **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 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.

### **BUILDING WORKS UPDATE**

As you might expect our building projects have not all gone to plan. On a good note, the classroom upgrade for our small group program has been completed and we also have a new multipurpose shared space next door. Landscaping works will be required outside these classrooms – please bear with us because this happens.

The first stage of roof upgrade over the art room and year 4 wing is well under way. However, the work is running one week behind and will extend into the first week of school, causing some disruption to two classrooms. These classes will be relocated for the first five days.

Disappointingly our heating upgrade and the installation of new classrooms has not commenced yet. The intention is to swap all of our 1960 gas heating over to electric. However, this warrants much more electrical power than we currently have access to. Because, as yet, Evo Energy has still not installed the school specific sub-station required to meet our needs, neither the heating nor classroom projects have been able to go ahead. I am hopeful that this delay won't be ongoing.

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**

### **CORONAVIRUS**

The Education Directorate and ACT Health have advised that 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

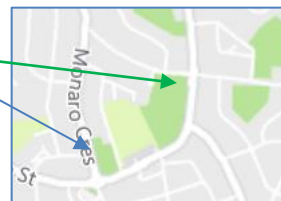
- Don't forget your child needs a water bottle and sun smart hat every day.
- We would like every child in school uniform. Please contact the principal if this is difficult for your family because of financial or other reasons.
- Please ensure you provide a current medical plan if your child requires any special treatment by school staff.
- 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.

## 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 and 4.)
- 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 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 year level support	
Preschool	Kristy Aitchison
Kindergarten and Year 1	Debra Lawrence
Year 2	Nathan James
Year 3	David Corcoran
Year 4	Kristy Aitchison
Year 5	David Corcoran
Year 6	Louise Owens
Student Welfare	Nathan James

## 2023 RED HILL STAFF

PRINCIPAL	Louise Owens			
DEPUTY PRINCIPALS	David Corcoran		Curriculum	
	Nathan James		Student Welfare	
Executive Teachers	Kristy Aitchison		Deb Lawrence	
PRESCHOOL – Red Hill	Elisabeth Deacon/Nicole Lipman		Ivanka Kennedy and Lidija Trpeska	
PRESCHOOL – Griffith	Amanda Tutalo/Julie Fergusson		Bronwyn Beattie	
KNR	Nazmeen Rahman			
KS	Majella-Rose Shanahan			
KVR	Virginia Rosser			
KW	Kim Werner			
1H	Adam Hambly			
1J	Juliette O’Connor			
1LF	Sue La Flamme			
1KJ	Kylie Jenkins			
1MK	Gwen McCormack and Lynda Keane			
2C	Alison Chesson			
2MC	Kristy McCumiskey			
2N	Tina Nguyen			
2PB	Toni Pallamountagne and Nigel Byng			
2Z	Mollie Zaja			
3CW	Charlotte Churchill and Jodie Watt			
3NS	Nicole Smith			
3PS	Phillip Southerton			
3SE	Susan Edwards			
3WL	Kath Winchester and Vickie Larnach			
3U	James Urwin			
4BK	Ben Kemp			
4H	Sam Harris			
4LK	Leigh Kanara			
4MK	Manpreet Kaur			
5E	Skye Eddi			
5H	Kate Hanley			
5J	Linley Jenkins			
5MN	Mel Newton			
6D	Fiona D’Elboux			
6G	Amber Griffin			
6H	Ashley Howse			
6KN	Karen Nixon			
LCH (Small group program)	Kai Cartwright and Libby Howard			
Teacher Librarian/Library Tech	Hazel Naidoo		Kelly Nash	
Response to Intervention (RTI)	Catherine Thorpe		Kadiya Bilston (EAL/D)	
Visual and Dramatic Arts	Sophie Hopkins			
Languages	Frances Szeremet (French K-3)		Chad Birks (Mandarin 4-6)	
PE/African Drumming	Dan Graetz		Heidi Norton	
Release	Robyn Leatherland			
Defence Mentor	Paz Tartaglia			
School Psychologist	Lauren E-Thomas			
BUSINESS MANAGER	Cheryl Gillett			
School Secretary	TBA			
Enrolments	Jo Hastings	Excursions & Finance		Lisa Svatos
BUILDING SERVICES OFFICER	Anthony Hosking			
School Assistants	Nicole MacPherson	Kerry Sturgeon	Joanna Hearne	Deepa Walia
	Zac Lawrence	Leanne Emerson		



## 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

# JANUARY & FEBRUARY EXTENDED UNIFORM SHOP HOURS

**Set up in the Year 4 Corridor**

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

**8.30am to 12.00pm**

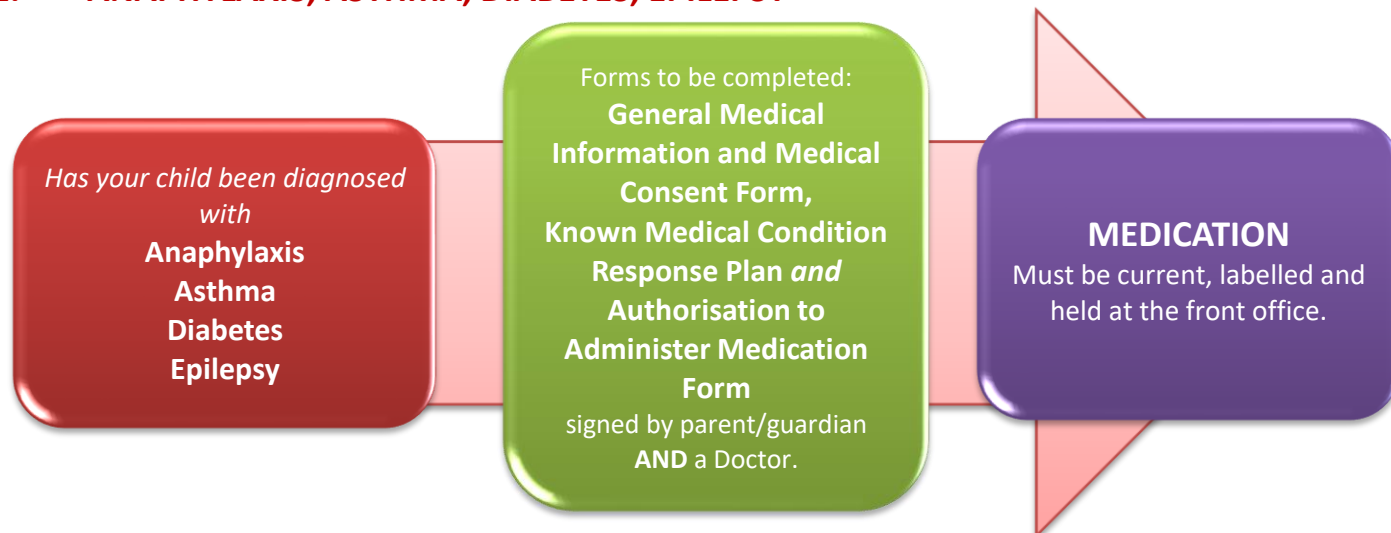
**The shop will also be open next week Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 8.30am-10.30am and Friday 2pm to 4pm (location TBA).**



# 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.