Great things come in small packages

I’m a very proud Principal of our wonderful school. A ‘small school’ that does great things for our students. We provide lots of opportunities for all students in a variety of areas. I’m reminded of this daily in my interactions with students and their families.

Reflecting in the year that has been, there are so many wonderful opportunities we have provided for your children. I’ve been trying to think of a succinct way to talk about this……here I go!!

- Small class sizes
- Future centred learning spaces
- Visible learning for our global citizens
- XO Laptop for every child in our school
- Computer lab
- Netbooks x 30
- Dedicated iPads for each classroom
- Interactive board technology in all classrooms
- Library with Video Conferencing facilities – we regularly use this with all students

- Positive Behaviour for Learning
- Expert staff with a love of learning and a passion for their job
- Free-range chickens
- Choir
- Talent Quest
- Student leadership
- PSSA participation
- Athletics carnivals
- Swimming carnivals
- Peer support
- Learning support
- Multilit
- ESL support
- Gifted and Talented programs
- Genius Hour
- Large expansive grounds
- Excursions for each grade
- School camp for years 3-6

Gee, I’m not doing a very good job at keeping this short!! That’s because there are so many educational opportunities we offer the students at our school!! I haven’t even had a chance to talk about Before and After School Care and our wonderful P&C……….
Let’s have a look at the research to back up what I’m saying. Below is an excerpt from a research paper on ‘Small Schools and Education Outcomes’ by Trevor Cobbold. His findings were:

- Academic achievement in small schools is at least equal – and often superior – to that of large schools;
- Student attitudes towards school in general and toward particular school subjects are more positive in small schools;
- Student social behaviour – as measured by truancy, discipline problems, violence; theft, substance abuse, and gang participation – is more positive in small schools;
- Levels of extracurricular participation are much higher and more varied in small schools than large ones, and students in small schools derive greater satisfaction from their extracurricular participation;
- Student attendance is better in small schools than in large ones;
- A smaller percentage of students drop out of small schools than large ones;
- Students have a greater sense of belonging in small schools than in large ones;
- Student academic and general self-concepts are higher in small schools than in large ones;
- Interpersonal relations between and among students, teachers, and administrators are more positive in small schools than in large ones.

As you can see from my ‘not so short’ article, great things filled with many opportunities do come in small packages…………just like Rydalmere Public School and Preschool!!

**Music Count Us In**

Last week we used our video conferencing facilities to link up with 500,000 other students to sing our song ‘Gold’. Marcia Hines spoke to the students and sang them a song, before we all performed together – it was fabulous!!

**Grandparents Day**

Thank you to all of the Grandparents who were able to join us for our celebrations. Each of these pictures speaks a thousand words – enjoy.

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**Bek Zadow**
Principal

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**ASSEMBLY AWARDS**

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<th>KA</th>
<th>Tyler</th>
<th>Liam</th>
<th>Mahdi</th>
<th>Annie</th>
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<td>1G</td>
<td>Sabrina</td>
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<td>3/4M</td>
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WHAT’S BEEN HAPPENING IN 1G?

1G have been enjoying some time in the art room. We have loved experimenting with different and bright colours. We also love our new reading corner 😊
The 2 Day Preschool class had a wonderful time exploring their outdoor learning environment after the rain earlier in the day. The children discovered that the drain was blocked and set to work to clear the blockage. To their delight they discovered that the then water flowed down the drain. Working together they gathered materials from the yard and began to build a dam.

Some of the children used containers to collect water from the tank and poured it down the drain to cheers of excitement. As the water built up again they measured the depth against their gumboots and by using a stick.

Our children are demonstrating an enthusiasm for learning. They are curious and are following their interests through play. Working collaboratively with their peers they investigate new ideas and engage in scientific and mathematical concepts.

What a fun afternoon.
Upcoming events

Movie Night – Friday 20th November – movie night Committee

MOVIE NIGHT

NOT LONG TO GO NOW.

We are holding a Movie night on Friday 20th November. Pre entertainment starts from 4:30pm, raffles drawn at 7:00pm and the movie starts 8:00pm. Come along and show your support for your children’s school and enjoy a lovely community evening watching BIG HERO 6.

Pre-purchase tickets notes went home. If you would like to pre-purchase tickets these are only available until Tuesday 10th November.

Have a look at the great raffle prizes that have been donated. Raffle tickets are $1 each so don’t forget to get your raffle tickets in for a chance to win some great prizes - over 25 to be won.

Please bring in your Volunteer Helper notes to help make this a great community event, the more helpers the better it will run.

School banking

Leonie Beasley (Alexis – Yr 1) has taken over the Banking and this is done on Wednesdays. If you would like any information regarding banking, please don’t hesitate to contact the office.

Breakfast Club

Please note Breakfast club is still operating from the Canteen every morning. So come on down and enjoy some nutritious breakfast before a big day at school.

Canteen

The Canteen is closed until further notice for recess and lunch orders

DON’T FORGET THE CANTEEN IS ONLY OPEN Tuesday and Fridays for Ice creams sold by Year 6s

Uniform shop

The Uniform shop is open every Friday morning between 8:50am and 9:15am.

Come and see Maryanne if you need any uniforms.

We are now selling headbands and scrunches’. Packs are $5.

BUNNINGS BBQ

A huge thank you to Bianca Scarfe (Mateo) & Maryanne Thompson for running the Bunnings bbq on Saturday the 7th November. What a great effort by all of those who helped. These families include Britz, Beasley, Ly, Cottam, Zadow, Crampton/Sloan, Yap/Ashford, Lazarovic, Bales, Combeer, Thompson, Elsoussi, Bebarragai, Tahatos, Jordan/Pursey. Thank you! Without your help we wouldn’t have been able to raise over $1,100. Also thank you to the families who came and bought sausages and supported the Bunnings BBQ. Thank you
MUFFIN BREAK

Our school has the chance to win up to $3000 and 1,000 muffins to sell for the school through a website www.greatbakesale.com.au Please vote for Rydalmere public school. Only one vote per person. This is finishing soon so get your votes into help your school win.

DON’T FORGET Our Next Meeting will be held in the library at 6:30pm on Thursday the 19th November. Come along and be part of the schools fundraising plans, there is no such thing as a bad idea.

RPS Knits...

The Hub has had a fantastic participation rate at the knitting workshop, having 10 participants join this group so far! Some of Ladies already knew how to knit but joined for the social connection this group gives them whilst others had no experience at all.

All participants have been enjoying getting to know each other better through conversation and working together on “Project Unity”. Project Unity is a blanket made of 28 squares in school colours which will reside on the couch in the PC room. This blanket represents that we are all different, share a similar interest and are willing to work together for a common goal.

We are now 7 squares into Project Unity with all participants clicking their needles.

Go Ladies go!

At our first workshop Enelie had decided she would first like to finish off her scarf she started some years back and has finally finished it! It looks gorgeous.

If you wish to join the group you are most welcome too. We meet on Tuesday mornings 9.30am to 11.30am with child care available this term.

The knitting group has received a number of donations of wool, knitting needles, crochet hooks and pom pom looms. Thank you to Jo-Anne Furno and Nichole Roberts for these.

Hope to see you there,

Leonie

Can you crochet?

A number of participants from the knitting group would like to learn how to crochet. If you can spare a few hours in term 1, 2016 we would love to hear from you.

Please contact Leonie – 0405 489 442
School Banking Term 4

**Rewards Program – Available in Term 4**

With the withdrawal of the Lunar Light Band this term, Commonwealth Bank are releasing an alternative reward item in Term 4. Alongside the Outer Space Savers Money Box, students’ savings efforts can now be rewarded with the new Galaxy Glider (available while stocks last). Students will be able to test their skills with a game of frisbee with our new reward item.

Still in stock are the following reward items from our 2015 Outer Space Savers range:

- E.T. DVD
- Intergalactic Rocket
- Invisible Ink Martian Pens

Plus, limited stock available from our 2014 Deep Sea Savers range of reward items including:

- Scented Pencils
- Shark Puffer Toy Keyring
- Swimming Bag

**Are your students in the draw to win a family trip to Disneyland?**

To congratulate students who have made 25 or more School Banking deposits this year, Commonwealth Bank have created a deposit wallet slip that lets students know they’re in the running to win a family trip to California’s Disneyland. So keep up your savings each week and you’ll be in the draw too!