Several recent successful School events are briefly noted:

**Orientation Day for 2016 Year 7** went particularly smoothly and commenced with an exciting session with parents and students focussing on the **BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) Program** which will start with Year 7 and Year 10 students in 2016; **Peripatetic Music Concerts**, involving over 70 students, were wonderful and provided fantastic entertainment for the two large audiences as well as tremendous encouragement for the students, some of whom performed for their first time.

I commend for your attention a number of upcoming events:

- **Orientation Days for 2016 Kindergarten** – we are appreciative of those parents who will assist with Uniform sales and a big morning tea; **RJ Bike Challenge** for RJ students and their families – a great morning of activity and interactions – please don't miss out; **Year 6 Graduation Ceremony** which highlights the inspiring elements of growth and progress; **Ensemble/Band Concerts** to showcase the many students involved this year in instrumental and vocal groups.

A number of excellent **staff appointments** have been made for 2016 to both replace staff leaving and also due to increasing student numbers. In Support and Operational Staff, Mr Nathaniel Rushton has already taken over as **Facilities Manager** for Mr Graham Thomas who was here since 2002; and in a new role, titled **Operations Manager**, Mrs Stephanie Ghali will commence in two weeks time. We warmly welcome them both. **Staff leaving: Primary – Mrs Freya Robinson**; Secondary – **Miss Rikki Brownlow, Mrs Jennie Bucco, Mrs Claire Vowell, Mr Stuart McCormack, Mr Michael Roper, Mrs Leila Thompson. The School's appreciation is conveyed to them for their service to our community. A new position of **Director of Studies** is being introduced into the Secondary section to further promote excellent pedagogy and effective digital learning and an additional **Primary Co-ordinator** has been appointed, as well as new appointees for the **Co-ordinators’ roles** in the English and HSIE faculties and the **Secondary Welfare Director’s position**.

**Class 1J** very capably hosted last Friday's **Primary Assembly**, during which they used various skills to show the meaning of Jesus’ statement, “I am the Good Shepherd”. Whilst the job of a shepherd is somewhat foreign to us, in a modern, metropolitan society, we can understand the potential sacrificial cost of protecting a flock of sheep when danger appears. Jesus was saying that He is like the kind of shepherd who would even lay down his life for the sheep. This is not an empty statement, for Jesus has demonstrated His great love for each one of us by laying down His life as an amazing sacrifice: “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, when he sees the wolf coming, abandons the sheep and runs away.” (John 10:11-12)

And Jesus’ commitment is ongoing for each of us!

Finally, may I commend several current charitable activities for RJ community support: **Toys ‘n’ Tucker by Anglicare; Christmas Shoeboxes for Christmas Child; Pink Mo Day** to assist with Prostate Cancer and Breast Cancer; and **Primary Hat Day** for Brain Cancer. Please encourage our students’ participation and get involved yourself. Pink Mo Day and Hat Day will be combined on Friday 20 November as a **K-12 Mufti Day**. Thank you.

**Best wishes**

Paul Cockrem
HOUSE LEADERSHIP

Using Edval as a voting platform for the first time, the Secondary students showed that democracy is alive and well at RJ by voting in their preferred House Leaders for the coming year.

Each of the House leaders will be responsible for a Home Group of students as shown in the table below. They will continue being the leader for their allocated Home Group until September next year.

NOAH’S SHARKS

Vaega, Rachel (Captain)  
Le-May Fox, Stephany (Vice Captain) - S5S2 Mr Hyde  
Ostergaard, Elin - S4S1 Mrs Mulligan  
Schmarr, Joel - S5S1 Miss Close  
Espinoza, Victoria - S4S2 Mr Harrison

DAVID’S RAMS

Dela Cruz, Dominic (Captain)  
Papaliitele, Lealofisa (Vice Captain) - S5R2 Mr Taylor  
Tautai, Chantelle - S4R1 Miss Goodman  
Tima, Kiteao - S4R2 Mrs Lyons  
Cortes, Stephanie - S5R1 Mr Webb

DANIEL’S LIONS

Fanning, Riley (Captain)  
Lalas, Jhnno (Vice Captain) - S5L1 Mr Bunsell  
Siuhengalu, Fine - S5L2 Miss Johnston  
Cvek, Tesa - S4L1 Mr Hughes  
Lal, Ayesha - S4L2 Mr van Heerden

ISAIAH’S EAGLES

Esera, Iakopo (Captain)  
Olive, Britney (Vice Captain) - S5E2 Miss Brownlow  
Mears, Bailey - S4E1 Mrs Gough  
Chetty, Munesh - S4E2 Mr Rowe/Mrs Thomson  
Hingano, Tim - S5E1 Mrs Bucco  

Chapel Vice Captains were also appointed last Friday, after very encouraging interviews were held.

CULTURAL AND SPORTING MEDALLIONS

Thank you to the parents and students who made enquiries about Medallions after the provisional list of winners was printed in the previous edition of the RJ Review.

The following two students have been added to the list

Botros Michael has scored 80 points giving him a Silver Medallion for Cultural.

Melody Scoble has scored 60 points giving her a Bronze Medallion for Cultural.

Congratulations. The Medallions will be handed out at the Presentation Nights.

Cyber MATTERS

Today, we are highlighting another well-known and informative website, which can help both parents and their children to learn more about the dangers of the Internet in a fun and responsible way.

Open Colleges Australia gives very useful information on their interactive website: http://www.opencolleges.edu.au/informed/cyber-safety/

CYBER SAFETY: An Interactive Guide To Staying Safe On The Internet

The Internet is without a doubt one of the best resources available to us. Unfortunately it’s also extremely dangerous if you aren’t aware of who and what lurks behind the scenes. Everyone should know how to be safe when surfing the web, but internet safety tips and tricks are spread all over the web without a go-to resource. Since the majority of internet scam and virus victims are students and young people, Open Colleges is a perfect place to post the very first full guide to being safe on the internet.

Some important topics which are covered are:

- CYBER BULLYING
- IDENTITY THEFT
- PLAGIARISM
- COMPUTER VIRUSES
- GENERAL INTERNET SAFETY

Michael O’Hare  
Deputy Principal

Michael O’Hare  
Deputy Principal

Cultural and Sporting Medallions
ATTENTION

The transition from white socks with thin light blue stripes to ones with navy stripes is happening this year due to manufacturer difficulties. From 2016 only white socks with navy stripes will be permitted.

NEW OPAL CARD FOR SCHOOL TRANSPORT

The School has just been informed in regard to the new Opal Card for student travel from the beginning of 2016. The process is quite different to the previous application process.

Most students who already have a travel pass in 2015 will automatically be issued an Opal Card at the beginning of 2016. These will be distributed at School at the beginning of the year.

- Students moving from Year 2 to Year 3 and Year 6 to Year 7 will need to reapply.
- Students who have changed address will also need to reapply.
- All new students will need to apply.

The application is completed online at www.transportnsw.info/school-students. Parents then print out the completed application and return it to the school for verification and submission.

Please disregard any other application forms you have received, whether you have submitted it or not, and complete the online process.

Printed Application Forms are due to the School by 27 November 2015. If the application is submitted after this date there may be a delay in your child receiving their card next year.

Any queries, please contact Student Reception.

Secondary SEGMENTS

Thursday evening (12 November) will see us return once more to the Colebee Centre for the Year 12 Formal, and I am sure it will be another beautiful event. On Saturday evening, I attended a reunion organised by my husband’s school, 46 years after starting 1st Form (now Year 7) together. Some photos even went back to Kindergarten, when Rooty Hill Primary was still surrounded by bushland!

I saw how years faded away and memories of high school, teachers and events were re-lived, all with the maturity of “older” age and the knowledge that many more things happen in life – beyond school - to make us who we are today. School days remained a connection with a more “innocent” age. In the Facebook age, I wonder if our students will feel the same way? Nostalgia is generated by a sense of things “lost” – with social media, those connection seem ever present.

Footprints, our School yearbook, has gone to the printers and will be available for families at Presentation Nights. Already we are starting to think ahead to the 20 year anniversary of the School in 2017, and how we might celebrate that significant milestone. In 2007 we printed Footsteps – now a new name is needed to represent the progress that has been made since then. If you have a suggestion, please email me!

Significantly, it will also be ten years since our first Year 12 sat their HSC exams, but wouldn’t it also be great to get that first School group together again – the 26 students who started with Mr Cockrem in 1997? If you are interested in organising a reunion dinner, again, please email me jclay@rjas.nsw.edu.au

So much is already in place for 2016! Camps and trips are booked, some excursions have already been organised, new staff appointed and learning spaces completed. It is all shaping up, under God’s hand, for a great year. He moulds us and refines who we are – I can never lose sight of that, even when some are critical. Through it all, God remains faithful. I simply rejoice in the knowledge that He is my Saviour, and His purposes will be accomplished for me and for RJ.

Jenny Clay
Assistant Principal/Head of Secondary
HANDY TIPS FOR APPLICATIONS

The application is completed online at www.transportnsw.info/school-students. Go to the “Want to know more” section and click the link to the “School Student Transport Scheme” website. From here go to the Opal Card information and click on “who needs to apply”. Ensure pop-ups are enabled on your computer to allow all necessary information to download. Check the eligibility information and click “apply now”. Check next page and “apply now”. Print the completed application. Please make sure you sign and date the printed application and submit to Student Reception by 27 November.
Matters of PRIMARY IMPORTANCE

ASSEMBLY
1R and 1J have presented items in Primary Assembly over the past fortnight, teaching us about the ‘I Am’ statements of Jesus. Both classes did a fantastic job. Last week, we also dedicated time to remember the men and women who have made the greatest sacrifice for their country by serving during times of war. We learnt about Poppy Park and paid respect to Private Eric Courtenay Wylie who died in service towards the end of WWI. Each year we will remember him. This week (Friday 13 November) 1S will present their item. In Week 7, special secret guests will present at Assembly. Parents are welcome to attend each week.

PRE-KINDERGARTEN & KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION DAYS
Kindergarten Orientation Days (Oakhurst) will be held on Wednesday 18 November (9:00-11:15am) and Thursday 19 November (9:00-11:45am). Pre Kindergarten Orientation Day (Marsden Park) will be held on Wednesday 25 November (9:00-11:00am). We look forward to meeting our new 2016 Pre Kindergarten and Kindergarten children and their families on these days.

MUSIC PERIPATETIC CONCERTS
The Music Peripatetic Concerts were held in Week 4. I had the delight of attending the A3/A4 Concert and enjoying the musical talents of many students. Each year, I love seeing the growth of students, the benefits of tuition and the reward for persistent hours of practising. One of the highlights for me is seeing students’ progress from playing with the support of their tutor to being able to perform independently. Well done to all students who performed on the evening.

FAMILY BIKE CHALLENGE
The ‘Family Bike Challenge’ will be held next Saturday 21 November at Nurragingy Reserve commencing at 9am for students participating in Activities 1 and 2. We had a fantastic day last year and are looking forward to a wonderful day again this year. Students will need a well-fitted bike helmet and bike to participate on the day. Students should wear their House Shirts to receive extra House Points. We look forward to seeing you at this exciting event.

MRS MCLEOD – ABSENCE UNTIL 2016

Mrs McLeod will be taking medical leave through to the end of 2015. We send her our thoughts and prayers and look forward to seeing her again at the start of 2016. Mr Reed will replace Mrs McLeod in her Coordinator role. Mrs Sarah Peddie will replace the majority of Mrs McLeod’s teaching role. Mrs Peddie has been teaching casually at RJ for some time now and is an excellent classroom practitioner. Students will be greatly blessed by her teaching.

PRIMARY PRESENTATION NIGHT
Primary Presentation Night will be held on Wednesday 2 December in the School Hall. This is a fantastic evening that celebrates the achievements of Primary students throughout the 2015 School Year in a variety of areas, including Performance, Sporting, Christian Character and Diligence to Learning. Student attendance is compulsory at Presentation Night so please mark this important date in your calendar. Student Semester 2 Reports and Portfolios will be issued at Presentation Night.

SCHOOL UNIFORM
There are still students telling teachers they have lost or do not have a hat. Hats are an essential Uniform Item in Term 4 for PE and Sport Activities and for playing during recess and lunch. The ‘No Hat No Play’ rule is now being enforced for students who do not have a hat at School. Please check that your child has a hat and purchase a new one as a matter of priority if required.

YEAR 6 GRADUATION
Year 6 Graduation will be held on Friday 27 November commencing at 9am. Graduation consists of a special Primary Assembly, followed by morning tea for the Year 6 students and their families. Notes will be sent home early this week.

YEAR 7 ORIENTATION DAY
Year 6 students very excitedly ventured to Secondary for their Year 7 Orientation Day last week. They enjoyed getting to know some of the Secondary staff and meeting new friends. How quickly their time in Primary sadly comes to an end. We will miss them next year but wish them all of God’s blessings as they continue on their educational adventure.

Narelle Taylor
Head of Primary
P&F Association

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

It is hard to believe the end of the school year is drawing near and the next few weeks will be a busy time for us all. The P&F will be involved in the Kindergarten Orientation Morning on the 18 November as well as the Marsden Park Campus Orientation the next week. We will also be serving the biggest Morning Tea at the Bike Challenge on 21 November. We will be needing assistance at these events. If you are child free on the Wednesday, 18 November and would like to serve Morning Tea and greet new Kindergarten parents and then stay to sell Uniform, please contact the P&F via email. The Bike Challenge note will call for assistance to help with the Morning Tea. If you are able to get there early and get the drinks in esokies, serve Morning Tea or pack up, please contact the P&F; we would appreciate your help!

There will be a few more weeks of school banking (finishing 26 November), there is one more Book Club (catalogue already distributed) and the final two fundraisers have now been collected. I would like to thank Sarah McAdams who has co-ordinated Book Club and Davinia Torchia and Melinda Graham who have co-ordinated school banking on behalf of the P&F this year. Thank you ladies for your hard work and willingness to provide the opportunity for the children to read more and save more! Thank you also to Sehr and Colette for co-ordinating the movie ticket and card/calendar fundraisers.

P&F Association

SCHOOL BANKING

School Banking continues to be successful this term. Thank you to all the families who have supported the program this year. We hope it has been helpful in educating your children about the importance of saving.

Please note that the last banking day for the year will be 26 November. If your child is eligible for a reward please send in their redemption coupon and 10 tokens by 19 November to allow enough time to receive the order before the end of Term (you can pre-order a reward at 9 tokens). There are a number of children who have over 10 tokens and have not redeemed a reward. Redemption coupons can be collected from student reception if needed. If students are unable to redeem tokens in time it can be carried over to next year.

P&F Association

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Please note the last day of trading for the Uniform Shop will be Wednesday 25 November. Please note the Back To School Sale days have changed for 2016 and we will not be selling Uniform items on the very first day back, so please use the January day of opening to ensure your Kindergarten, Year 6, Year 7 and Year 11/12 students have what they need for their first day. Thank you to Vikki, Kim and Colette for your commitment to the Uniform Shop this year.

The P&F were pleased to have been able to make a substantial donation of $30,000 to the school building project. These monies were raised through the P&F fundraisers, including the Fete over the past few years. Mr Cockrem thanked the P&F and School community for this donation.

There is one final P&F meeting for 2015. This meeting will be held on Tuesday 17 November at 7pm in the Secondary Library. If you are able to make it we would love to see you there. Please also consider the possibility of involvement in the P&F in 2016. There are many on the P&F Executive who have served for many years but now due to their situations changing are unable to continue next year. It would be great to have new parents involved in helping the School community in this way. I can tell you that I have found I have received great benefit through my involvement in P&F, including new friendships, being informed about what is going on in my School community and helping to provide more resources so that our children can learn and be supported in their many endeavours.

Tanya White
P&F Association President

We look forward to continuing the School Banking program next year with a new theme and incentives for the children to claim. If you like to start banking in the New Year you can open a Dollarmite Account at the Commonwealth Bank or send in a current Dollarmite Account Book.

Have a wonderful break with your children and we will see you next year.

Davinia Torchia & Melinda Graham, P&F Association
RJ Presentation Nights

PRIMARY
2 December 6:30pm

SECONDARY
3 December 7:00pm

At the conclusion of each of the Presentation Nights students are issued with their Semester 2 Reports. If any student is unable to attend their appropriate Presentation Night parents are asked to write to the Principal seeking exemption for their child’s attendance with an explanation as to why they are unable to attend. Absent students will not receive their Reports until the commencement of the 2016 school year.

SEE YOU THERE!

2015 PRESENTATION NIGHTS
Primary - Wednesday 2 December at 6:30pm  Secondary - Thursday 3 December at 7:00pm
Attendance of all students is required. Inability to attend must be notified in writing by Wednesday 25 November 2015. Email: absences@rjas.nsw.edu.au
Toys ‘N’ TUCKER

Each year Anglicare runs a ‘Toys ‘n’ Tucker’ Appeal to provide toys and food for families in need at Christmas. Our School is supporting the Appeal again this year and we would love to have donations of any of the items listed below. Please don’t send in glass jars or anything fragile or any chocolates.

Also, please don't wrap presents as they must be unwrapped prior to distribution. This is a wonderful way to help those in need - we can make a difference!

Cash donations can also be made – these can be left at the School Office.

For the Primary Section, donations can be left in the basket at each classroom.

Secondary students can leave donations in the basket in Student Reception.

The last day for donations to be received is **Friday 20 November**.

Thank you for your support.

DONATION IDEAS:

- Gifts for children - toys, games, books and activity sets.
- Gifts for teenagers - sporting gear, games, books and toiletry sets.
- New clothes - t-shirts, shorts and caps for all ages.
- Food - tinned ham, fish, vegetables & fruit; Christmas cakes and puddings; pasta and rice; long-life milk.
- Wrapping paper - so parents can enjoy the experience of wrapping gifts for their children.

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UPDATE YOUR CONTACT DETAILS

Have you changed your mobile number? Do you no longer have a landline?
Have you changed jobs or email address?

If this applies to you, it is important to contact the School to advise us. It is a requirement that the School is able to contact you!

Families should also nominate 2 names and mobiles (Grandparents, friends, neighbours) to be listed as Emergency Contacts for their children. Email updates or changes to: admin@rjas.nsw.edu.au or log in to the Parent Portal to update your details.
Prayer Points

- Praise – and thanks for God’s hand in providing new staff for 2016
- Praise – for Student Leaders who demonstrate their faith as they lead others.
- Prayer – that the many preparations for Presentation Nights will go smoothly
- Prayer – for God to continue to make our new Marsden Park Campus known to families coming to this area.

November

12
- Year 10 1950’s Day
- Year 12 History Extension Study Day, State Library
- Year 12 2015 Formal
- 7-11 Chapel at 9:40am
- K-6 Assembly at 11:15am hosted by Class 1S
- Year 12 Men of Honour & Rising Girls Day
- Year 4 Excursion to Sydney Writers Festival, Blacktown City Library
- P&F Association Meeting 7:00pm, Secondary Library
- Kindergarten 2016 Orientation Days
- Year 5 Excursion to Powerhouse Museum
- Year 12 Business Studies Excursion to IKEA Marsden Park
- Mufti Day, incorporating Primary Hats and Secondary Pink Mo’s
- 7-11 Assembly 9:40am
- K-6 Assembly at 11:15am hosted by Primary Staff
- RJ Bike Challenge 8:30am at Nurragingy Reserve
- Year 10 Service Week
- Marsden Park Campus Pre Kindergarten Orientation Day
- Year 9 Food Technology and Year 7 Indonesian Tasting Day
- 7-11 Chapel at 11:50am
- Year 6 Graduation Assembly at 9:00am
- Year 10 Excursion to Luna Park
- Music Ensemble Concerts 2:00pm

December

2
- Secondary Swim Day; Years 7 & 8 at Stanhope Gardens;
  Years 9, 10 & 12 at Ryde Aquatic Centre
- Primary Presentation Night 6:30pm. Reports and Portfolios distributed.
- Secondary Presentation Night 7:00pm. Reports distributed.
- Term 4 concludes
- Parent/Teacher Interviews (bookings only)

2016 Term Dates

**TERM 1 (11 weeks)**

- Tuesday 19 January: Staff Preparation/New Staff Induction
- Wednesday 20 January: Staff Development Day
- Thursday 21 January: Staff Development Day
- Friday 22 January: Staff Development Day
- Tuesday 26 January: Australia Day
- Wednesday 27 January: Kindergarten – ½ day; Years 6, 7, 11 & 12; & all new Primary & Secondary students commence
- Thursday 28 January: Years 1-5 and Years 8-10 commence
- Friday 25 March: Good Friday
- Monday 28 March: Easter Monday
- Friday 8 April: Last day of Term 1

**TERM 2 (10 weeks)**

- Monday 25 April Anzac Day
- Tuesday 26 April Students recommence
- Monday 13 June Queen's Birthday
- Friday 1 July Last day of Term 2

**TERM 3 (9 weeks)**

- 20-22 July: Staff Development Days
- Monday 25 July: Students recommence
- Friday 23 September: Last day of Term 3
- Monday 3 October: Labour Day

**TERM 4 (9 weeks)**

- Monday 10 October: Students recommence
- Wednesday 7 December: Primary Presentation Night
- Thursday 8 December: Secondary Presentation Night
- Thursday 8 December: Last day of Term 4
- 9 – 13 December: Staff Development Days
Oakhurst Anglican Church

Would like to invite you to join us at one of our Services, or at one of our regular groups during the week.

SERVICE TIMES:
8.15am    Traditional Service
10.00am   Family Service
1.00pm    Dinka (Sudanese) Service
6.00pm    Service: Church @ 6

OTHER REGULAR GROUPS:
Play’nGrow (Mums & Bubs playgroup)     Monday 9.30-11.30am
C4K (Kindy to Year 5 kids)              Mondays 6-7.30pm
Junior Youth Group (Years 6-9)         Fridays 7-8.30pm
ESL (English Lessons)                  Thursdays 9-11am

Oakhurst Anglican Church Op Shop is open Monday to Friday 9am - 2pm, drop in for a browse and a chat, the staff are always happy to meet new people! Ph: 9675 6200

For Further Information: Minister Neil Ellis 0433 252 268
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