Feelings of tremendous anticipation and great excitement were very evident last week as RJ families and students attended their first days of the 2016 School year. We had a very productive commencement, from our youngest Ricky J’s (PreKindergarten at Marsden Park Campus) and our Kindergarten children in their first year of School, through to our students transitioning from Primary into Secondary and our senior students progressing with their HSC studies. With much satisfaction we proudly highlight how well all of those learning activities have kicked-off. Such a high degree of settledness is due in large part to the combined diligent efforts and teamwork of our staff, for which we commend them.

An especially warm RJ welcome is extended to all new students and their families, as well as new staff: Primary – Mrs Claire McCormick, Miss Sarah Rees, Mrs Anne Glass; Secondary – Mrs Jenet Chapman, Miss Anna Massey, Mr Brad Maxwell, Mrs Sally Morrow, Mrs Julia Scrimshaw, Mr Matthew Sendt; Primary/Secondary – Mrs Erica Hales; Admin – Miss Melanie Gray, Mrs Ruth Kempley-Hill.

Our House competition has already begun, with enthusiastic House Meetings held last week. It was Isaiah’s Eagles who were triumphant last year in winning the Overall Champion House. With the Swimming Carnival next week, every House is getting ready for an energetic start – best wishes to each House!

We warmly encourage all RJ parents to take advantage of the range of Parent Information Evenings (for PreKindergarten to Year 11) being held from this week. The teachers look forward to such opportunities to establish good communication between home and School. Please also refer to the important ‘Lines of Communication’ (reprinted over the page and also published on our website) which should guide parents when needing to address matters with the staff. It is essential that parents follow this framework.

The 2015 HSC results were most pleasing because they showed good consistency across the cohort, a high number of students demonstrated high achievement and so many performed at or above their ability levels shown in previous Years. A number of students scored ATARS above 80, with the top ATAR being 98.45 by Josiah Seto, who was named on the All Rounders List (scoring more than 90% in 10 Units), and Distinguished Achievers List (Band 6 results in Advanced English, Maths Extension 1, Mathematics, Engineering Studies, Music and Physics). A total of 11 other Band 6 results were achieved: Advanced English – Althea Bastian (ATAR 93.70), Damon Chester (ATAR 94.85); Engineering Studies – Alec Tan, Damon Chester; Mathematics – Damon Chester, Alec Tan; Maths Extension 1 – Alec Tan; Community and Family Studies – Abby Stout, Anok Doong; English Extension 2 – Jamee Newland (ATAR 91.05); Visual Arts – Althea Bastian. We congratulate Year 12 2015 and also the staff for their diligence and support.

Many positive comments were made about the expanded central external areas, although we were disappointed that the extensive inclement weather during January significantly impacted progress and certain aspects have had to be postponed until the next vacation break in April. This large project will continue within the construction zone over coming months, with the final touches of 4 shade structures and landscaping to be finished during April/May. It’s wonderful to see how the finalised Masterplan will provide excellent passive and active playground spaces. Please remember to contribute to our ‘RJ Development Appeal’ with your financial donations so that we can properly complete it all – thank you.

The year’s first Parents’ and Friends’ Assoc. Meeting is on Tuesday 16 February and every parent is warmly invited to attend. Come along to connect with the School community and to hear the latest news.

As a Christian School it is a privilege to share from the Bible. Over the years, students of all ages (and parents/grandparents too) have come to learn more about the amazing Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, who asserted:

“I am the way, the truth and the life.” (John 14:6)

This declaration is distinct from many today who say that ‘truth’ is what you want it to be and what is ‘true’ for you isn’t necessarily ‘true’ for others. Different from such moral and spiritual relativity, the Bible declares that Jesus is absolute truth, on whom we can depend absolutely:

“If you hold to my teaching, then you will know the truth and the truth will set you free,” Jesus said. (John 8:31-32)

Best wishes
Paul Cockrem
Lines of COMMUNICATION

Parents are requested to follow these guidelines:

1. Make contact with the member of staff who is directly connected with the matter/enquiry. For the majority of such matters/enquiries, this will be a Class/Subject Teacher or Home Group (Years 7-12) Teacher.

2. Make an appointment to speak with another staff member (according to the outline below) if it was felt that the issue was not fully resolved with the staff member directly involved.

Student activity or welfare (eg. behaviour) issue may be referred to the following:

- PreKindergarten to Year 2 - Primary Co-ordinator - Mrs Karen McLeod
- Years 3 to 4 - Primary Coordinator - Mrs Claire McCormick
- Years 5 to 6 - Primary Co-ordinator - Mr Michael Reed
- Years 7 to 8 - Welfare Co-ordinators - Mr Stewart Rowe & Mrs Kerrie Lyons
- Years 7 to 8 - Assistant Co-ordinator - Mr Nathan Jones
- Years 9 to 10 - Welfare Co-ordinators - Mr Brad Maxwell
- Years 9 to 10 - Assistant Co-ordinator - Mr Luke Taylor & Mrs Rhiannon Mulligan
- Years 11 to 12 - Welfare Co-ordinator - Mr Chris Smith
- Years 11 to 12 - Assistant Co-ordinator - Miss Lisa Close

Student learning/academic progress may be referred to the following:

- PreKindergarten to Year 2 - Primary Co-ordinator - Mrs Karen McLeod
- Years 3 to 4 - Primary Co-ordinator - Mrs Claire McCormick
- Years 5 to 6 - Primary Co-ordinator - Mr Michael Reed
- Year 7 to Year 12 -
  - HSIE: Curriculum Co-ordinator - Mr Matthew Sendt
  - Science: Curriculum Co-ordinator - Mr Peter Robson
  - TAS/Creative Arts: Curriculum Co-ordinator - Mr Rob Cohen
  - Maths: Curriculum Co-ordinator - Mr Gareth Thompson
  - English/LOTE/Drama: Curriculum Co-ordinator - Mrs Sally Morrow
  - Music: Curriculum Co-ordinator - Mrs Narelle Robertson
  - PDHPE: Curriculum Co-ordinator - Mrs Julia Scrimshaw
  - Biblical Studies: Curriculum Co-ordinators - Mrs Jenny Clay & Mr Stewart Rowe

(Issues related to the Higher School Certificate may be referred to the Assistant Principal/Head of Secondary, Mrs Jenny Clay).

3. Make an appointment to speak with either the Head of Primary or the Head of Secondary or Director of Secondary Welfare (Mr Brad Maxwell) or Director of Studies (Mrs Julia Scrimshaw), only after the above steps have been undertaken.

4. Make an appointment to speak with the Deputy Principal or Principal only after the above steps have been undertaken. The Principal is ultimately responsible for ensuring issues are resolved as best as possible.

Helpful communication hints are listed below for all parents:

- Positive communication and a preparedness to understand are the key ingredients
- Listen to your child, but review the information as objectively as possible (ie. separate fact from opinion) and check to see that their story aligns with details described by the staff member
- If the matter involves a grievance do not express such concern in front of your child, especially in a negative way, or criticise staff with your child within ‘earshot’
- When contacting the School about any matter, or making an appointment, provide a brief explanation to the Office personnel so that the staff member can prepare for your interaction.
- Don’t take matters into your own hands by contacting another student and/or their parents as it could inflame the situation and not achieve the desired outcome.
START OF NEW YEAR

2016 has started very smoothly at RJ. This has again been achieved through hard work from the staff and wonderful cooperation from parents and students. Students have returned to School this year correctly dressed, settled and ready to work. It has been amazing to witness just how quickly everyone has adapted to School routines again. Thank you to all the students and staff members who have made new staff and students feel so welcome.

LOCKERS

The following rules pertaining to lockers are important for the smooth operation of the School and we ask all parents and students to read through the guidelines and abide by them:

• The students must use the locker provided to them by the School. They are not to swap lockers with anyone else. If there is a good reason why a student has an issue with the locker which he/she has been allocated, they are to approach their Welfare Coordinator and give him/her a written explanation of the problem. The Coordinator will then consider the matter and may give the student permission to change lockers. Only then may the student use a different locker.

• The student must use the lock provided by the School. Locks from home have, in the past, needed to be sawn off when keys were lost or combinations were forgotten. Students trying to use their own lock run the risk of it being removed by the School. Students who have problems with the School lock which was issued to them must see their Coordinator and explain the problem.

• Students must keep their bags etc. inside the locker. No bags should be left lying around anywhere in the School or taken to class.

• Students need to keep their lockers locked at all times. Lockers left unlocked will be secured by staff members.

• Students may not share lockers with others.

• Students may not open or attempt to open any other student’s locker.

• Students should not congregate near lockers. They should use their locker and then move away to allow other students to access their lockers.

• Students may only visit lockers before School from 8:00am-8:30am, then during Recess, during Lunch and after School from 3:20pm. Students should always take enough equipment for the following two Periods.

• Students may bring mobile telephones to School, but they must be switched off and kept in their locked locker throughout the School day, Recess and Lunch included.

• Students in Years 7,10,11 and 12 who have School or personal laptops with them, should secure them in their lockers during Recess and Lunch.

TURNAROUNDS

Parents should take note of the operation of the two Turnarounds used at RJAS. If each person follows a few simple procedures, then everyone can get away as quickly as possible:

• Parents who are only picking up Primary children need to go the Primary Turnaround, situated outside the Church.

• Parents who are picking up Secondary children, or a combination of Primary and Secondary children, need to go the Secondary Turnaround, which is situated near the School Hall.

• The gates of the School are opened at 3:25pm. Arriving before that will mean queuing in Hyatts Road. It is best to arrive after 3:30pm.

• At each Turnaround, there will be a teacher on duty wearing a brightly coloured vest. Please follow the instructions of this teacher.

• Students will remain with the teacher until your car has progressed in the queue to where the teacher is standing. It is counter-productive for parents to pick their children up before that point. Please help us in following that direction.

• Teachers have been instructed to move cars forward in order to prevent congestion at the gate. Please help us by moving along to empty spots ahead.

• Encourage your children to go straight to the Turnarounds after School to prevent unnecessary delays.

• Students who walk in a southerly direction towards Plumpton Marketplace are encouraged to walk around the back of D Block and past the Primary Turnaround area. This way, they will avoid having to cross three vehicle entrance/exit points, making the exit from School easier for pedestrians and vehicles alike.

DIARIES

Each Secondary student will receive a Student Diary this week. Parents are asked to please put a sample signature on the first blue page of the diary. A parent is required to sign the diary each weekend, so that the School is aware of issues being communicated by staff members about their child. There is a space each week for parents to make any short comment/query
School
RULES, OK! (continued)

as well.

Parents of Secondary students are encouraged to familiarise themselves with the information in the blue section of the Diary. Important matters are covered in this section and everyone benefits when parents are fully aware of what is expected of the students.

SPORTING AND CULTURAL MEDALLIONS

Each year, the system of the very popular and successful Sporting and Cultural Medallions is reviewed and improved. The latest updates will be available in this column in the next issue of the RJ Review. Families are encouraged to print a copy and keep tally of their child’s points throughout the year. As new activities are added during the year, parents will be advised of the points available for that activity. The list will then be updated and a copy placed on the RJ Website.

We look forward to a wonderful Cultural and Sporting year for all our students.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL

House Meetings were held in Week One already this year to ensure that Houses are prepared for the upcoming Year 3-12 Swimming Carnival. Along with the able Year 2 swimmers, the Years 3-12 students will be in action on Wednesday 10 February at the Emerton Pool.

Isaiah’s Eagles will be keen to continue their winning ways after winning the Overall House Shield at the end of 2015, but the other three Houses will be just as keen to show them that they are up for the challenge.

Michael O’Hare
Deputy Principal

Cyber
MATTERS

HOW TO TAKE GOOD CARE OF YOUR LAPTOP

If you are currently in Years 7,10,11 or 12, you are able to bring laptops to School. Others may have laptops at home. Either way, it is extremely important that you take good care of your laptop to keep it working well.

Following these easy steps will ensure that your laptop lasts longer and requires less maintenance. As an added bonus, many of the steps will also maintain your laptop’s speed. It is also useful to do a check of the laptop once in a while so as to remove any errors or problems which might have crept in during the routine usage.

1. Keep food and drinks like coffee, soda, water or any other liquids away from your laptop.
2. Having antivirus software available is the best defence against a virus.
3. Do not use your computer in a room where there are animals.
4. Ideally keep the computer in a clean and dust free room.
5. Always have clean hands when using your laptop.
6. When you shut your laptop, make sure there are no small items, such as a pencil or small ear-phones, on the keyboard.
7. Hold and lift the computer by its base, not by its LCD display (the screen).
8. Be sure to plug accessory devices into their proper slots. Always look at the symbols on the laptop carefully before inserting devices.
9. Don’t leave your laptop in a car. Not only do car interiors experience large temperature swings that could cause damage, a laptop (or laptop bag) is an inviting target for a smash and grab thief.
10. Avoid placing heavy materials, such as books, on top of your laptop.
11. Use an old clean toothbrush to brush clear the area around the exhaust fan screen.
12. Don’t use your laptop on the bed. Repeated use of a laptop on the bed will cause the fans to suck up the dust and debris in the bed, ultimately blocking the fan.

A full list of 33 steps as well as explanations of each can be found at http://www.wikihow.com/Take-Good-Care-of-Your-Laptop-Computer
Secondary SEGMENTS

It is always an exciting moment to see new faces at the start of a School year and the anticipation that students have, as they re-connect with friends and staff, or meet someone they don’t know, who could become a friend for life. Learning in Secondary has started smoothly, and the on-boarding process has gone especially well with Years 7 and 10. This has been in large measure due to the extensive preparation for BYOD done before the end of Term 4 - and over the holidays - by Mr O’Hare, Mr Clay, Mr Rae and Mr Bell. All students involved in the BYOD program must remember to return their signed agreement by Wednesday 3 February, to continue accessing the School’s network. It is planned for Years 11 and 12 to be on-boarded during Period 5 Tuesday 2 February.

I would especially like to welcome our new Secondary teachers, Mrs Scrimshaw (Director of Studies and Science teacher), Mr Maxwell (Director of Welfare and HSIE teacher), Mrs Morrow (English Curriculum Co-ordinator), Mr Sendt (HSIE Curriculum Co-ordinator), Miss Massey (HSIE teacher), Mrs Hales (Music) and Mrs Chapman (Mathematics teacher). They have felt very warmly welcomed into the School community and have commented about how students have been friendly and helpful in every way. I am sure that each of them will make an outstanding contribution to RJ!

Our HSC results were our best ever across the grade, with 16 Band 6 results in a wide range of subjects and students now making plans for courses of study at a range of universities. These include Health Sciences, Engineering, Communications, Primary Teaching, Secondary Teaching, Nursing, Design, Arts and Science. Josiah Seto scored the top ATAR and is now studying a Bachelor of Science (Advanced Mathematics). He hopes to major in both Maths and Physics. He has also accepted the University of Sydney Scholars Award, which was a substantial scholarship for his first year of study, and only awarded to selected students.

It was also very satisfying to hear of students who have entered the workforce, gaining jobs after their first interview! Several students have traineeships in Childcare and Information Technology, and one has joined the Air Force. We wish them all the very best and we will continue to keep them in our prayers.

The first of our Information Evenings commences this week with Year 11. ALL students are expected to attend, with a family member. Important information will be distributed with regard to assessment policies and procedures, and Mr Smith (Stage 6 Welfare Co-ordinator) will give an outline of the new Stage 6 Home Group Program. Year 11 Study Camp follows the next week.

The Stage 4 Information Evening follows on Thursday 4 February and Stage 5 on 24 February. At this meeting we will have speakers from Camp Somerset talking about the Outdoor Education program for Year 9 and the City Challenge for Year 10. It is very important that all students and parents attend, especially if your child has not been involved in these events before. These activities are a compulsory component of the learning program and (as is the case for all camps and educational trips), attendance is not negotiable.

Let’s look forward to a great 2016, under God’s guidance, at RJAS!

Jenny Clay
Assistant Principal/Head of Secondary

ATTENTION

From this year only white socks with navy stripes are permitted.
Secondary
SPORT SNAPSHOT

A warm welcome back as we embark on another action-packed year for Secondary Sport at RJAS. School and Representative Sport will commence on Tuesday 9 February. All trials for our representative teams will be finalised this week. Sport selections for students not in a Representative Sport will also be confirmed by the end of the week. Students will complete an online selection process for the following School Sports:

- Ice Skating
- Don Bosco
- Kick Boxing
- Rock Climbing
- Tennis

Year 7 who are not representing our School will be participating in the Swim Program at Stanhope Pools. They will be required to bring their swimming equipment for the first lesson on Tuesday 9 February.

The Representative Sports that RJ will compete in this term are:

- U/14's AFL
- U/15's and Open Mixed Volleyball
- U/15's and Open Girls Basketball
- Open Cricket

SWIMMING CARNIVAL!

Our annual School Swimming Carnival will be held next week, Wednesday 10 February at Emerton Leisure Centre. A note was given to all students on Monday (01/02/16). It is really important that we get the note back as buses need to be booked. Please have the note returned to Home Group teachers by tomorrow (Wednesday 3 February). It will be a fantastic day and all parents are welcome to attend.

UNIFORM

It is very important that all students wear appropriate Sport Uniform every Tuesday. Please ensure your child has the correct shoes, socks, shorts, shirt and hat every Tuesday.

David Hyde
Secondary Sport Co-ordinator
WELCOME TO 2016

We would like to say welcome to all RJ students and their families and to let you know how we can help in 2016. A Learning Support Teacher is responsible for each Stage and they will be your ‘go to’ teachers. These are Mrs Kerrie Lyons (7-12 Learning Support Coordinator, Years 7-8 and Years 11-12) and Mrs Annette Sicard (Years 9-10). These teachers are very ably assisted by Mrs Miriam Oliver (Tuesday and Thursday) and Mrs Deb Rowe our teacher aide who will be working with students from Years 10-12.

Our roles mostly include:

- In-class support
- Support with assessments (mostly to get started)
- Reading assessments – YARC (York Assessment of Reading Comprehension) - previously NEALE
- IEPs (Independent Education Plans)
- ITPs (Independent Transition Plans)
- Disability Provisions for examinations and in-class assessment tasks
- Learning Centre (B9)

You can be a part of our team too by assisting as a reader and/or writer for our students who require help during exams. Please consider this very vital support. We have been very blessed in the past and we again say thank you to our past readers and writers and would love you to assist again.

If you would like further information about this or any other Learning Support matter, please contact me at School or email klyons@rjas.nsw.edu.au.

Thanking you,

Kerrie Lyons
Learning Support Co-ordinator (7-12)
Welcome to YEAR 7

WELCOME YEAR 7, 2016

It was great to see a very enthusiastic group of Year 7 students arrive to School on Wednesday. They came with their laptops, books and a great attitude, ready to start this new adventure.

Here are some of their first impressions:

Samuel: “It was difficult at first but after a while, it got easier.”

Jacob: “High School is fun and a big change for us to get used to.”

Lachlan: “High School is exciting and it’s great to be in Year 7. I know it’s challenging, but also fun.”

Kate: “It’s kind of scary and I didn’t know my way around. I was late to class on the second day but now it’s easier.”

Onjahlique: “The teachers are very welcoming. It is fun to have all the different subjects, but it was also a little confusing at first.”

Stewart Rowe & Kerrie Lyons
Stage 4 Welfare Co-ordinators
What a great start back to the School year we have had at RJ. Our new campus at Marsden Park has commenced with our Pre-Kindergarten class and we also welcomed Kindergarten and new students across Years 1-6 at Oakhurst. Thank you to students and parents for assisting to ensure a smooth start to the new School year. The students have returned quickly to School routines and are enjoying getting to know their new teachers and classmates. They have adjusted well to changes in the outside environment as we all eagerly await our brand new play spaces opening in Term 2. All Oakhurst families should have received a copy of the beginning of year note “Primary Information – Term 1”. If you did not receive a copy, there are copies available in Primary Reception. Marsden Park families received relevant information via a letter mailed prior to the start of School.

CODE OF CONDUCT

In Primary, we encourage the students to conduct themselves in a manner that is both respectful and responsible. The “Primary Code of Conduct” is a carefully chosen selection of statements that clearly outlines the important standards by which we live within our School. Please be familiar with the statements and discuss them with your child regularly.

PRIMARY CODE OF CONDUCT

We follow directions.

We do our best in all activities.

We care for others and treat them politely.

We are in the right place at the right time.

We respect our property and other people’s property.

COMMUNICATION

Effective communication between teachers and parents is extremely important. Here are some ways to help maintain contact with a teacher:

1. Notes and phone calls.
2. On most days teachers are available after School for brief conversations. Please note that on some days teachers have meetings after School.
3. Except in the case of an urgent matter, please do not talk to teachers before School because they are busy preparing lessons for the day.

Parents are encouraged to communicate with their child’s teacher about any issue that may be of concern. If you feel that, after having spoken with your child’s teacher, your concern has not been addressed, please contact the relevant Primary Coordinator (Mrs McLeod – Pre-K-2, Mrs McCormick – 3-4 or Mr Reed 5-6) for further assistance. Please do not leave issues or concerns unresolved. It is important that we all work together to ensure the best learning environment for the children.

NOTES TO PARENTS

From 2016, generic Primary notes not requiring individual student permission will be sent to the youngest child in the family. Please be sure to check your youngest child’s bag regularly for any notes.

PRIMARY CLASSES

Parents are reminded that R, J and S classes in Primary are not ability-based classes. The allocation of the R, J or S code to a class is based solely on alphabetical order of the surnames of the teachers teaching the Grade, for example, for Kindergarten: KR – Mrs Beckman, KJ – Miss Parata and KS – Miss Prunty. All Primary classes are mixed-ability classes.

PRIMARY INFORMATION EVENINGS

A note was sent home yesterday with all students at Oakhurst providing the details for our upcoming Primary Information Evening to be held this Monday 8 February commencing from 6:15pm in the Hall. After a general information session, Coordinators will provide specific Stage-based information. Grade Information notes will also be provided. Please refer to the note for full details. A Parent Information Evening will be held on Tuesday 9 February from 6:30-7:30pm at Marsden Park for families with children in Pre-Kindergarten.

MATHEMATICS YEARS 3-6

As students move from Year 2 to Year 3 Mathematics, there is a significant increase in the knowledge, skills and understandings required of students as documented in the Board of Studies Mathematics syllabus document. As a result, some students who have performed capably in Mathematics in Year 2 may initially find Year 3 Mathematics much more challenging. In order to assist students to transition more smoothly between these Grades, students will not be ability-grouped for Mathematics in Year 3, instead being taught in their Grade Class. Ability grouping will commence from Year 4 as follows:
• Year 4 – students will be split into 2 ability groups
• Year 5 – students will be split into 3 ability groups
• Year 6 – students will be split into 3 ability groups

These ability groups allow teachers to better plan learning suited to individual student needs in Mathematics. Mathematics groups commence this week.

PRIMARY LEADERS 2016

Congratulations to the following students who were selected as the Primary Captains, Vice-Captains and House Captains and Leaders in 2015:

• Primary Captains: Reuben Dela Cruz and Emilie White
• Primary Vice-Captains: Luke De Cruz and Riya Nadan

House Leaders:

• David’s Rams - Ethan Kerek (Captain), Harmony Millard, Rylie Farisco, Timothy Johnston
• Noah’s Sharks - Amy Watson (Captain), Mark Cavanagh, Larissa De Gouveia, Isaiah San Diego
• Isaiah’s Eagles - Jemma Askew (Captain), Caitlyn Midgley, Juan Fado, Taylor Budd
• Daniel’s Lions - Faith Kranendonk (Captain), Malieta Okusitino, Rohan Lal, Max McAdams

Student Forum representatives for Years 4-6 will be nominated in class this week.

REMINDERS - OAKHURST

Please remember the following:

1. School commences in the mornings at 8:45am with Morning Assembly. We encourage students to arrive between 8:30 and 8:40am in order to greet their friends. Parents are requested to leave by 8:45am and to not wait in or near the Assembly area. This can be distracting for the children.

2. School finishes at 3:20pm. In the afternoons children should be collected from the Hardcourt (Canteen sails in wet weather). Parents are asked to not wait outside classrooms. Teachers will bring their class out to meet parents. Parents are encouraged to use the Turning circles or park at Plumpton Marketplace and access the School through the front gates. There is limited parking on Dryden Avenue.

3. Hats (either the broad rim or legionnaire hat) are an essential item of the School Uniform and children who do not have a hat will not be able to play outside at break times. It is not necessary for students to wear their hat before or after School and therefore hats may be left at School overnight (making it one less thing to remember in the mornings!). Hats must be worn in all types of weather in Terms 1 and 4.

SCHOOL BANKING - OAKHURST

School Banking will shortly resume for 2016. If you would like for your child to participate in the Commonwealth Bank School Banking program, your child will need a bank account. You can visit any Commonwealth Bank branch to organise your account (remember to take in identification for you and your child such as drivers license and birth certificate). You will receive a Dollarmites wallet and deposit book on the spot and be able to start banking. If you are a Commonwealth Bank customer with NetBank you have the option to open the account online. School Banking includes a fantastic Rewards Program to encourage good individual saving habits. Banking day at School will be each Thursday, commencing this Thursday 4 February.

SPONSOR CHILDREN

Each Primary grade has been linked with a sponsor child from the New Creation Children’s Home in Kathmandu, Nepal. A new sponsor child has been assigned to Marsden Park. Each student is asked to bring in $1 per month to contribute to supporting their sponsor child. The children also enjoy writing and receiving letters to one another throughout the year. We thank you for your support of this important ministry.

STUDENT BELONGINGS

It is essential that all student belongings are clearly labeled so they can be quickly returned to students. Parents are reminded that students should not bring expensive or valuable items or toys to School. These items can be extremely appealing to other students who may be tempted to take them for themselves. Whilst we endeavor to teach our students important values about respecting other people’s property, we cannot guarantee the safety of valuable items. Please help your children to know what items can go to School to play with and which items are special home toys. Students should also not have large amounts of money at School and should be reminded not to give money to other students.
More Matters of PRIMARY IMPORTANCE

SWIMMING CARNIVAL – YEARS 3-12
The Years 3-12 School Swimming Carnival will be held next Wednesday 10 February at Emerton Leisure Centre. We look forward to seeing you there to cheer on your child and their House.

SWIM SCHOOL – YEARS 1-6
All permission notes for Swim School should now be returned. If you have not returned your note it must be returned immediately so swimming staff can be suitably organised to match the abilities and needs of our students. Swim School commences next Monday 8 February and continues each Monday until Monday 21 March. Please refer to the note to ensure your child has the correct attire and requirements for weekly swimming lessons. Year 6 will not have lessons in Week 4 due to Camp.

YEAR 6 CAMP
Our Year 6 students will be heading to Teen Ranch in Week 4. Parents are reminded that notes are due by this Thursday 4 February.

Narelle Taylor
Head of Primary
A Selection of Photos From
PREKINDERGARTEN & KINDERGARTEN 2016
2016 RJAS INSTRUMENTAL, TECHNICAL AND VOCAL ENSEMBLE PROGRAM

I’d like to extend to everyone a big welcome to 2016. This year promises to be another very busy, yet exciting one for the Instrumental, Technical and Vocal Program at RJAS. Sadly, as you may know, we said farewell to Mrs Vowell at the end of last year. I am very pleased to announce that Mrs Erica Hales is the new addition to our RJ Music Staff. This year, Conductors of our Bands will be as follows:

Beginner Band: Mrs Robertson
Intermediate Band: Mrs Hales
Concert Band: Mr Wright
Beginner Strings: Mrs Hales

RJAS ENSEMBLE PROGRAM: PRIMARY & SECONDARY GUITARS

Information/Permission notes for our many Instrumental Ensembles will be sent home later this week. Our Guitar Ensemble program, which will be getting underway next week is two-tiered. Primary Guitar Ensemble is held from 8:00am – 8:45am in D5. Secondary Guitar Ensemble is held in D5 every Friday afternoon from 3:30pm – 4:30pm. These groups will again be conducted by Mr Juan Bogaz, and are for the extension and enrichment of our guitar students. They are not designed to take the place of private lessons, but are an excellent opportunity for students receiving private tuition to put their skills into practice in a small group setting.

UKULELE ENSEMBLES

Once again, Mr Bogaz will direct the Year 3/4 Ukulele Ensemble. This was a group formed in the latter half of 2013, and was a favourite amongst our Stage 2 students. It will again be held on a Wednesday morning in D3 from 8:00 – 8:45am. Following on from the Years 3/4 success, and to cater for students progressing from Year 4 to Year 5, Mr Bogaz will continue the very successful Years 5/6 Ukulele Ensemble, to be held on a Monday morning from 8:00am – 8:45am in D3.

2016 BEGINNER BAND

Due to the extremely hectic nature of the end of last year, the details of our 2016 Beginner Band were not finalised. Information/Permission notes will be sent home to all successful students later this week. Beginner Band rehearsals will take place on Wednesday morning from 8:00am – 8:45am with Mrs Robertson. All Beginner Band Program group tutorials and rehearsals commence in Week 4.

2016 BEGINNER STRINGS PROGRAM

We are very excited to be commencing our Beginner Strings Program this year. Due to the change of Music Staff at the end of 2015, it has taken a bit of extra time in the setting up of the new program. Auditions for entry to the program were held for Primary students at the end of last year, and Information/Permission notes will be sent home to all successful students later this week.

2016 BAND PROGRAM COMMENCEMENT

Band Program group tutorials and rehearsals will commence on Monday of Week 4, unless advised otherwise. For parents of 2015 Band Program students – if you do not wish your child to continue this year in the program please let me know (if you haven’t already) in writing by the end of Week 4 or I will assume that your child is continuing throughout 2016.

Group tuition is offered in the following instruments:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Flute</th>
<th>Oboe</th>
<th>Clarinet</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alto Saxophone</td>
<td>Glockenspiel</td>
<td>Tenor Saxophone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trumpet</td>
<td>Percussion</td>
<td>Trombone</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All of our Instrumental, Technical and Vocal Ensemble timetables will be published in the NEXT edition of our RJ Review. This will give you all the details of Group tutorial, Band and Ensemble rehearsal days and times. It is a good idea to print off a copy to put on the fridge door!

PRIVATE LESSONS

Private Tuition is offered on the following instruments:

- Keyboard/Piano
- Acoustic/Electric Guitar/Bass Guitar/Ukulele
- Drums
- Flute
- Saxophone
- Singing
- Violin/Cello

Private lessons have commenced. There are, however, some vacancies on all instruments. Please return the permission form (to Student Reception) if you would like your child to have private lessons.
PIANO EXAM RESULTS
Several of our students sat for various Piano exams toward the end of last year. We are very proud to inform you of their results:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Exam Type</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Result</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adriele Salonga</td>
<td>AMEB Piano for Leisure</td>
<td>Grade 1</td>
<td>A+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christine Tannous</td>
<td>ABRMS Piano</td>
<td>Grade 3</td>
<td>Pass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raad Tannous</td>
<td>ABRMS Piano</td>
<td>Grade 5</td>
<td>Pass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alex Back</td>
<td>AMEB Piano</td>
<td>Grade 6</td>
<td>B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bethany Seto</td>
<td>AMEB Piano</td>
<td>Grade 6</td>
<td>A+</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Congratulations to all of these students!

TECHNICAL SUPPORT TEAM
The Technical Support Team is a continuing project for RJAS and is one that requires specific training for all participants and a commitment to serve those who run events in the School. The team will provide support through the organisation and operation of sound, lighting, vision and theatre communications equipment under the supervision of Mr Wright, Mr Rae and Mr Robson.

Our Secondary Vocal Ensemble: VOX will commence in Week 4. This group will meet on a Tuesday afternoon from 3:30pm – 4:30pm. It is comprised of students from Years 7-12, and will enjoy many and varied performance opportunities, including School Assemblies, Chapels, Concerts, Presentation Nights, visits to Nursing Homes and other community events.

If you would like to enquire further about our extensive Band Program or Private Tuition lessons for your child, please contact Student Reception who can give you the relevant contact details.

Narelle Robertson
Music Curriculum Co-ordinator
Meet The Staff
CLAIRE MCCORMICK (PRIMARY CO-ORDINATOR)

What is your favourite food?
I love the lemon meringue pie my daughter makes, topped with ice cream and cream!

What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?
I like to read, have coffee with friends, visit my favourite beach, spend more time with family – and just relaxing at home!

When and why did you come to work at this School?
I started here at the beginning of this year and I came here because it looked like a great place to be.

What do you think you will enjoy about your role in the School?
I will enjoy working with students, other staff and families to promote a love of learning and a love of Jesus. I also noticed a cool coffee machine in the staffroom, so I think I will enjoy that too!

Describe a wonderful experience you’ve had which you’ll never forget.
Going up on a chairlift to the highest point on the island of Capri and being dazzled by the beautiful colours I could see.

Why did you become a Christian?
I grew up in a Christian family knowing that God loved me and had sent Jesus to make things right. I trusted Him as a child and have continued to learn of His goodness and love.

What is your favourite Bible verse?
My favourite passage is from Philippians 4:4-9. It starts by saying, “Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again; rejoice!”

What is something you want to achieve?
Lots of things! At the moment I am working on becoming more fit. I would love to do more travel overseas one day.

If you could meet any person in the world at the moment who would it be?
I would like to meet Malala Yousafzai and learn from her courage and passion for the rights of others.

Meet The Staff
BRAD MAXWELL (DIRECTOR OF WELFARE)

What is your favourite food?
Thai food.

What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?
Learning guitar, hanging out with my family and reading.

When and why did you come to work at this School?
I am starting in 2016, to continue to serve and encourage others for God’s glory.

What do you think you will enjoy about your role in the School?
Establishing relationships with staff and seeing growth in students.

Describe a wonderful experience you’ve had which you’ll never forget.
The birth of my children, OR driving a V8 Supercar at Eastern Creek!

Why did you become a Christian?
Overwhelmed by God’s grace and mercy. While the gospel is radical, it makes sense.

What is your favourite Bible verse?
Colossians 2:6-7 “So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.”

What is something you want to achieve?
To be known as a follower of God, and holiday in Europe at some point in the future.

If you could meet any person in the world at the moment who would it be?
AB De Villiers or Gerry Adams.
### Prayer Points

- Pray for the new students in Primary and Secondary who have commenced at RJ this year, that they may quickly become adjusted to new routines and develop friendships among their peers.
- Give thanks for the new staff that God has brought to our School, that they may use their teaching talents to His glory and our students’ benefit.
- Praise that students and staff have returned safely and well rested after the holiday break.
- Pray for our School Council Chair, Mr Stephen Poucher, and other Council Members for the work they undertake for the benefit of the School and Christian education in the Mt Druitt area.

### Dates to REMEMBER

**TERM 1, 2016**

#### February

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Parent Information Evening (Year 11) at 6:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Parent Information Evening for Stage 4 (Years 7 &amp; 8) at 6:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Years 1-12 (not Kindergarten) School Assembly at 9:40am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Year 1-6 Swimming Lessons commence ( Mondays until 21 March)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Parent Information Evening (K-6) at 6:15pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Marsden Park Opening Evening (Pre-K) at 6:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Swimming Carnival (Years 3-12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Year 7 Immunisations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 &amp; 12</td>
<td>Year 11 Study Camp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Years 7 to 10 &amp; 12 Assembly at 9:40am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>K-5 Assembly at 11:15am (hosted by 1J)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Years 1-6 Swimming Lessons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 &amp; 17</td>
<td>Year 6 Camp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>P&amp;F Association AGM at 7pm in the Secondary Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 &amp; 19</td>
<td>Year 7 Camp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 &amp; 19</td>
<td>Year 8 Educational Trip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Years 9-12 Chapel at 9:40am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>K-6 Assembly at 11:15am (hosted by 4R)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Years 1-6 Swimming Lessons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Primary Bandaged Bear Day at Oakhurst Campus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Pre-Kindergarten Bandaged Bear Day at Marsden Park Campus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>CCSA Secondary Zone Swimming Carnival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Years 9 &amp; 10 Parent/Student evening at 6:30pm in the Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>CSSA Primary Zone Swimming Carnival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>7-12 Assembly at 9:40am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>K-6 Assembly at 11:15am hosted by 4J</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Years 1 – 6 Swimming Lessons</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### March

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>GRIP Leadership Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Primary CSSA State Swimming Carnival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Grandparents/Grandfriends’ Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>K-2 Swim Fun Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 &amp; 18</td>
<td>Year 5 Camp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Secondary CCSA State Swimming Carnival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### PLEASE BOOK THESE DATES:

- **Wednesday 10 February**
  - Years 3-12 Swimming Carnival

- **Thursday 11 February**
  - Year 7 Immunisations

- **Tuesday 16 February**
  - P&F Association AGM at 7pm

### 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 child/ren. Email updates or changes to: admin@rjas.nsw.edu.au or log in to the Parent Portal to update your details.
Richard Johnson
ANGLICAN SCHOOL DIRECTORY

Principal: Mr Paul Cockrem
Deputy Principal: Mr Michael O’Hare
Assistant Principal /Head Of Secondary: Mrs Jenny Clay
Head Of Primary: Mrs Narelle Taylor
Director of Studies: Mrs Julia Scrimshaw
Director of Secondary Welfare: Mr Stuart McCormack
Director of Service Learning: Mr Stewart Rowe
Primary Co-ordinators (Yrs K-6): Mrs Karen McLeod, Mrs Claire McCormick & Mr Michael Reed
Welfare Co-ordinators (Yrs 7-8): Mr Stewart Rowe & Mrs Kerrie Lyons
Welfare Co-ordinator (Yrs 9-10): Mr Brad Maxwell
Welfare Co-ordinator (Yrs 11-12): Mr Chris Smith
Learning Support Co-ordinator (K-6): Mrs Jennifer Jackson
Learning Support Co-ordinator (7-12): Mrs Kerrie Lyons

Telephone: 9677 2455 (Oakhurst) 9677 2455 (Marsden Park)
Fax: 9677 2528
Location: 93 Hyatts Road Oakhurst
Postal Address: PO Box 143 Plumpton 2761
Website: www.rjas.nsw.edu.au
E-mail: admin@rjas.nsw.edu.au
Absences: absences@rjas.nsw.edu.au
Portal: http://61.8.3.144/rjas/
Uniform Shop: Tuesday 8:20am - 9:00am
Canteen: Mon – Fri Breakfast, Recess and Lunch
Counsellor: Mrs Debbie Beck (Tue - Thur)
P&F Association: PandF@rjas.nsw.edu.au

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’n’Grow (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
Located at 95 Hyatts Road, Oakhurst (at the back of the car park)
An exciting opportunity exists for a dynamic Christian to join a dedicated team in this expanding K-12 School.

**BUS DRIVER/MAINTENANCE OFFICER**

Part-time, 2 x 2 hour shifts per day, Monday to Friday (preferably), term time, commencing asap. This role is temporary for 2016.

Refer to website for Position Description.

Applications, including full C.V. with at least one referee being the applicant’s current Minister and contact details for two work-related referees due by **Friday 12 February** to admin@rjas.nsw.edu.au

In accordance with Child Protection Act (2012), a Working With Children Check employment clearance is required. Provide clearance number, expiry date and Date of Birth with application.

www.rjas.nsw.edu.au

An exciting opportunity exists for a dynamic Christian to join a dedicated team in this expanding K-12 School.

**CANTEEN ASSISTANT**

Part-time, 2 or 3 days per week, 8am to 2pm, term time, commencing asap.

This role is temporary for 2016.

Refer to website for Position Description.

Applications, including full C.V. with at least one referee being the applicant’s current Minister and contact details for two work-related referees due by **Friday 12 February** to admin@rjas.nsw.edu.au

In accordance with Child Protection Act (2012), a Working With Children Check employment clearance is required. Provide clearance number, expiry date and Date of Birth with application.

www.rjas.nsw.edu.au
FREE SHIPPING FOR ORDERS OVER $100
Register online and receive a DISCOUNT ON YOUR FIRST ORDER

SCHOOL UNIFORMS
Please visit www.lowesschoolwear.com.au

Junior Indoor Cricket

STARTING WEDNESDAY 30th MARCH 2016

- Wednesday- U8’s, U10’s, U12’s
  Thursday- U14’s and U16’s
- Times from 4:20, 5:20 and 6:20pm
- 6 a side, Individuals and teams welcome!
- U/8- U/16- Boys and Girls Mixed Indoor Cricket
- $7 per game per child. (Playing Shirt Included)
- Register any weekday from January from 4-6pm.

Where to Find Us:
20 Forthorn Place
St Marys NSW 2760
Phone 9623 5523/0406237779
www.stmarysindoorsports.com.au
info@stmarysindoorsports.com.au

WHEN YOU PLAY INDOOR CRICKET AT OUR CENTRE $5 FROM YOUR REGO IS DONATED BACK TO YOUR OUTDOOR CLUB!
DIVE INTO SWIM CLUB
Come down and have a FREE trial Club Night with Swim Club Emerton at Emerton Leisure Centre, 35 Jersey Rd Emerton.

If you can swim 25m freestyle and backstroke, Swim Club is for you!

SPECIAL EVENT – MONDAY 15 FEBRUARY, 7PM

All swimmers get a free sausage sandwich
To register your interest, or for more information email swimclubemerton@gmail.com

emerton.swimming.org.au | facebook.com/swimclubemerton

Town Rangers Football Club

Registrations are now open
Age Groups under 5’s to All Age
Boys and Girls – Men and Women

Club Open Day
Saturdays in February 10am to 2pm At Popondetta Park, Emerton 2770 (Next to Emerton swimming pools)

To register go to www.myfootballclub.com.au
Any questions please contact us:
Phone 0418 262 049.
Email secretary@townrangersfc.com

Website www.townrangersfc.com or check us out on facebook ‘Town Rangers FC’
The Fusion Families Course is a 12 hour course which builds family relationships and helps form a framework to build a healthy, strong and loving family life.