**Principal's Message**

All computer systems at the school will be updated next week. No access to technology will be available in the office, library or in classrooms for the entire week. There will be no newsletter sent home next week. The next newsletter will come home on Thursday 28 February. We apologise for any inconvenience.

**Swimming Carnival**

Thank you to the parents who attended last week’s swimming carnival. It was a great day. We all appreciated the great job Mrs Fryer did in coordinating the event. Thank you to the teachers who were designated with a specific responsibility and to the parents and students from Robert Townson HS who also took an active role in supporting our school. Our students were enthusiastic participants in the swimming races and novelty events. They also showed great spirit in supporting their houses and cheering on their fellow students. Well done!

Results were:
- Wangrah
- Allunga
- Orana
- Bahlou

**Special Swimming Scheme 2013**

2 April – 12 April

This year the learn to swim program commences on Tuesday 2 April 2013 and finishes on Friday 12 April 2013, a little later than in previous years, at Eagle Vale Leisure Centre indoor pool. The cost is $60 per student. This cost includes pool entry and bus transportation to and from the venue each day. The lessons are delivered by Department of Education and Communities teachers. The scheme focuses on children in Years 2 and 3 and is also available to non swimmers in Years 4, 5 and 6. Please consider your child for this important program.

**Positive Behaviour at Robert Townson PS**

Real levels of achievement are greatly increased when teachers and parents expect high standards. Here at Robert Townson we pride ourselves on being a caring, orderly and well-disciplined school. It is vital that both teachers and parents work together to support students to achieve their potential in all aspects of school life. We would appreciate you discussing the importance of working cooperatively at school with your child/children.

To ensure a safe and effective learning environment the following is required of all students:

- Respect for other individuals and their property
- Courtesy to teachers, other students and members of the community
- Due respect for teachers and all members of staff
- Sustained application to learning
- No violence, discrimination, harassment, bullying or intimidation
- Peaceful resolution of conflict
- Compliance with school rules

The Robert Townson positive behaviour values which you will see displayed around the school are:

- Be safe
- Be respectful
- Aim high

Attached is a copy of the award system which will enable you to encourage your child to aspire to achieve the highest levels of recognition for excellence in all areas of school life.

**DISCLAIMER:** The RTPS School Council wishes all readers to be aware that the inclusion of an advertisement in this newsletter in NO WAY signifies the school’s endorsement of any particular product or service.
Alternative Collection Plan - Wet Weather

Please establish an alternative wet weather after school collection plan with your children. When bad weather hits at home time it can be a cause of confusion and anxiety for children if they are unsure where they should meet you, whether you will pick them up or where to find their siblings. Please discuss this as a family so they are aware of what they should do. Remind children that if they are unsure of what to do they should report to the office.

School Visitors and Volunteer Helpers

On arrival at the school, all visitors should report to the office so that staff are aware of their presence in the school. All visitors must sign the visitors’ book located at the office and wear an identification badge. The school visitors’ book includes details such as the date, time of arrival, name, purpose of the visit, contact details and time of departure. All volunteers in the school, even regulars, should sign in at the office when they arrive. Thank you to all the parents and carers that give of their time to assist our students and staff we really appreciate all you do.

New Parent Helpers

Parent helpers who work in the classroom need to fill in a Prohibited Declaration form available at the school office.

School Banking

The next school banking day is Thursday 21 February 2013. Children are to hand in their bank books to their class teacher on the day.

Excursion Expenses for 2013

Listed below are approximate costs per scholastic year for 2013 to help you plan ahead:

**Kindergarten** - Day excursions (Camden Show) and visiting performances approximately $70

**Stage 1** - Day excursions and visiting performances approximately $70

**Year 3** - Day excursions and visiting performers approximately $70

**Year 4** - Camp to *The Tops* at Stanwell Tops – Term 4 – Week 8 Monday 25 November – Wednesday 27 November 2013 approximately $200

**Stage 3 – Years 5 and 6**

- **Canberra** Monday 6 May – Tuesday 7 May (Years 5 and 6) approximately $200
- **Tea Gardens** - The Great Aussie Bush Camp (Year 6 only) approximately $330 Term 4, Week 8, Monday 25 to Thursday 28 November 2013

**Day excursion** to be determined City/Imax (Year 5 while Year 6 at Tea Gardens) approximately $30

**Swimming Scheme** for Yrs 2 – 6 $60

A separate note will go home providing details of activities as they occur.

Linda Green - Principal

Please Don’t Bring Your Dog to School

A number of parents have expressed concern about dogs being brought into the school. We have children who are either allergic to dogs or quite fearful of dogs. Just a friendly reminder that Section 14 of the *Companion Animals Act* (1998) prohibits dogs on school grounds.

Woolworths Earn & Learn Update

Thank you to all those families who supported this promotion. Our school is one of the top achieving schools in the area. There were 15 large boxes delivered to the school on Wednesday including resources for our numeracy and reading program. They are being sorted now ready for classroom use.

Your efforts are appreciated.

Wayne Osborne – Deputy Principal

Advertisements

Classic GLASS & GLAZING

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DAVID WILLIAMS
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Email: Classicglass@aapt.net.au
Green Merits can be awarded for any reason; academic, behaviour in class and out, sport, ‘one off good things’. 4 awards per week.

10 Green Merits = Principal’s Award (Small School Assemblies)

3 Principal’s Awards = Silver Medallion (End of Term Assemblies)

Bronze Awards are awarded at the end of each term for consistently upholding ‘RTPS Key Values’. Yellow misdemeanours negate Bronze Awards.

4 Bronze Awards = Silver Award
3 Silver Awards = Gold Award
2 Gold Awards = Gold Medallion

* The two systems combine at the Silver Award level.
* A Silver Medallion is equivalent to 1 Silver Award.
* 3 Silver Awards (a combination of awards and medallions) will equal a Gold Award, therefore 6 Silver Awards (a combination of awards and medallions) will equal 2 Gold Awards and a GOLD MEDALLION.
* Students who achieve a GOLD MEDALLION before or during year 5 (in years to come) will be eligible for a DIAMOND AWARD if they continue to earn Bronze and Silver Awards after receiving their Gold Medallion.