

# RGPS CONNECTIONS

'Together We Can for every child, every day'



MARCH ISSUE #3

## PRINCIPAL REPORT

Thank you to our school community for working together with us in Term 1.

Our School Council elections have concluded and due to a change in circumstances the following parent representatives were successful: Yvonne Hall, Siu Ly, Sanja Dinek & Nicole Miles. At our AGM meeting on Tuesday we elected office bearers for 2024.

- President: Nicole Miles
- Vice President: Sanja Dinek
- Treasurer: Yvonne Hall

We wish everyone a safe and happy school holiday and look forward to seeing everyone again on **Monday 15th April** for the start of Term 2.

*Robyn Trzeciak | RGPS Principal*

\*We will be moving to a monthly publication in 2024...our next edition will be at the end of April.



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## PRINCIPAL'S PRIDE AWARD

This year we have introduced a new positive acknowledgment, recognising those students who always go above and beyond in demonstrating our School values of respect, excellence, inclusion and equality.

The winners of our Term 1 Principal's Pride award are as follows;

**Foundation** - Isabeau Tieng-Roberts

**Year 2** - Chang Dienen

**Year 4** - Paige Jeffery

**Year 6** - Masooma Painda

**Year 1** - Uzair Naeemi

**Year 3** - Arzo Asadi

**Year 5** - Jessica Chhuon

**Specialist** - Hannah Curtis

Congratulations to these students, we are so happy to have you as members of our School! They each received a Village movie voucher to use with their family.

### OUR VALUES



RIVER GUM PRIMARY SCHOOL

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## BELL TIMES



Bag Bell: 8.35am  
**Morning Circle: 8.45am**  
 Session 1: 8.55am  
 Session 2: 9.55am  
 Session 3: 10.55am  
 Eating Time/Lunch: 11.55am  
 Session 4: 12.40pm  
 Eating Time/ Snack: 1.40pm  
 Session 5: 2.15pm  
**Dismissal: 3.15pm**

Please be aware of the **bell times** and arrive at school in time for the beginning of the day for important learning time. We start every day with a Morning Circle so that everyone starts their day with a greeting and a smile.


Eating time is included to 5 mins in classroom, however students are allowed to take lunchboxes into the yard, and leave them outside their classroom when finished. Classroom teachers also allow for additional eating time in the classroom while they are finishing off their learning in Session 3.

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## LUNCH TIME CLUBS

The recent introduction of lunch time clubs has seen students racing at the start of lunch to join their favourite club. These clubs are available for all year levels to access and will run weekly until further notice, with new clubs being added as the year progresses. Thank you to all staff for volunteering their lunch times to run these clubs!





### RGPS LUNCH TIME CLUBS

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
<p>Auslan Club Location: R14</p> 	<p>Friendship Bracelets Club Location: R17</p> 	<p>Yarn Club Location: Digi-Tech Room</p> 	<p>Art Club Location: Art Room</p> 	<p>Colouring In Club Location: R25</p> 
<p>By invitation only: Chocolate-making Club</p> 	<p>Craft Club Location: R18</p> 	<p>Dance Club Location: R13</p> 	<p>Table Tennis Club Location: R24</p> 	<p>Reading Club Location: R15</p> 
<p>Thursday Morning Before school: Run Club Location: Oval</p> 	<p>Guided Drawing Club Location: R10</p> 	<p>Board Games Club Location: R19</p> 	<p>Around the World Club Location: R01</p> 	<p>Coming soon: Choir Club</p> 

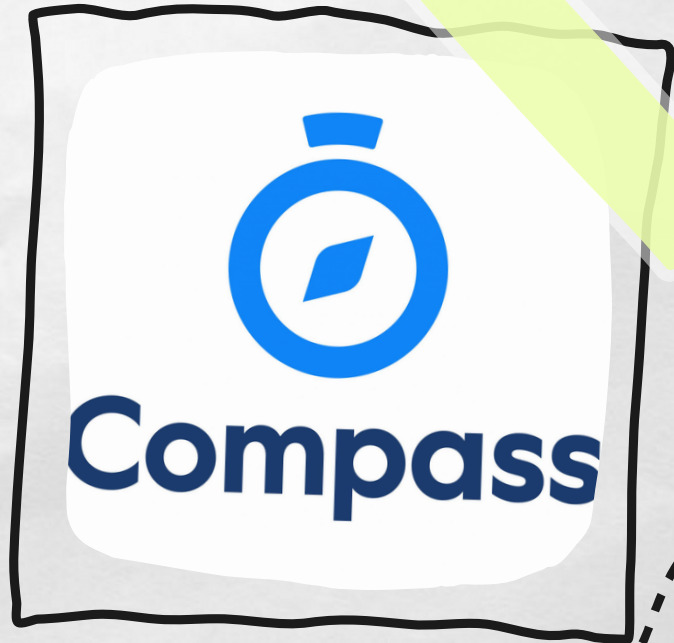
# 4

## COMPASS EDUCATION

### Have you signed up for Compass yet?

In term 2 most school communication will be moving to Compass. This includes permissions, reporting, payments, and attendance. You will also receive positive student acknowledgements through Compass too.

Please check your email for sign up details- these have been sent this week with links and log ins required for sign up.



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## EAL PROGRAM



Congratulations to Omar M, Asma, Hamza, Modaser, Omar S, Sasa, Sayeda and Lance who graduated from the EAL New Arrivals Program in Term 4, 2023!



Congratulations to Mehnaz, Apuala and Edris (absent) who will graduate from the EAL New Arrivals Program this term!

Our The EAL (English as an Additional Language) new arrivals program supports students in a small group to strengthen their literacy skills in reading, writing and speaking & listening. We use a Language Experience model to ensure students have hands on learning experiences to build their background knowledge and vocabulary. Congratulations to the students pictured who have completed the program.

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## BREAKFAST CLUB

The School Breakfast Clubs program seeks to address the impact disadvantage can have on education outcomes by offering free and healthy food for students in 1,000 Victorian government schools.

Research shows a child's ability to concentrate in class, self-regulate and learn is negatively impacted if they are hungry.

Everyone is welcome at our RGPS Breakfast Club which runs each morning from **8:15-8:45am**.



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## CHILD SAFETY

RGPS is committed to continuous improvement in our approach to child safety and wellbeing and welcome feedback from families and members of our school community on ways that we can further strengthen our child safety policies, procedures and practices. If you have any suggestions, comments or questions, please contact Robyn Trzeciak - RGPS Principal for more information.

Our policies are available on our school website: <https://www.rivergumps.vic.edu.au/>

Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility



FOLLOW US ON



[WWW.RIVERGUMPS.VIC.EDU.AU](http://WWW.RIVERGUMPS.VIC.EDU.AU)

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## ATTENDANCE

Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child's education. Students learn new things at school every day - missing school puts them behind.

There are always times when students need to miss school, such as when they're ill. It's vital, though, that they're only away on the days they are genuinely sick. It's also vital that holidays are planned during school holidays where possible, and not during the term if it can be avoided. **Every day counts.**

If you are having difficulty getting your child to school please speak with the school. This link is also a useful resource produced by the Department of Education with tips on how to get your child to school. [Click here for more information.](#)

### ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

#### Every Day Counts

1 or 2 days a week doesn't seem like much but ...

If your child misses ...	That equals...	Which is...	And over 13 years of schooling that's...
1 day every 2 weeks	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1.5 years of learning
1 day per week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	Over 2.5 years of learning
2 days per week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years of learning
3 days per week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	Nearly 8 years of learning

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## PLAYGROUP

Did you know our Playgroup program with Andrea is starting again? Playgroup is for children aged 0-5.

Playgroup provides a safe and happy environment for children to learn, play and develop language, communication and other skills.

Playgroup is an opportunity for parents and children to build friendships and learn about other activities and groups within their community.



**Reminder:** You need a hat for school every day in Term 1. Visit the office to purchase one. [Click here for our school Sun Smart Policy.](#)



# 10 LIFELONG LEARNING

## Fluency in Foundation

In Foundation this term, students have been getting ready and familiar with our fluency lesson structure. Students have been investigating sounds in a multi-sensory approach, building letter name fluency and have been explicitly taught rhyming words.

These skills are part of our Orton Gillingham Multi-sensory Structured Learning approach. This approach is scientific based and all senses (seeing, hearing, touching and moving) are activated at the same time. This ensures students develop essential literacy skills such as sound and letter knowledge, handwriting, phonics, spelling rules and oral language.

Fluency lessons in Foundation occur for one hour each day.



For more information on this approach:  
<https://dyslexiaassociation.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/What-is-MSL.pdf>



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# WONDROUS WELLBEING

## Year 4 Camp

A live update from our Year 4 campers:

City camp, with a jam packed schedule which includes the museum, IMAX, Queen Victoria market, and the aquarium! Today we will squeeze in a quick tram ride around the city. So far it is only just passed lunch time and already we have taken almost 8000 steps !!!



Keep an eye out for details regarding the upcoming Year 6 camp, taking place in Week 4 of Term 2!  
Payments can be made at the Office.



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# EPIC ENGAGEMENT

On Monday 25th March we held River Gum's first ever '**Foodbank Food Fight**'. Students from all year levels were covered in paints, powders, gels and slimes, all whilst raising important funds for Foodbank Victoria. The top fundraising students even had the once in a lifetime opportunity to slime a teacher, with Mrs Trzeciak and Mr Legg being covered in 50 litres of goopy, sticky, smelly slime. In total we raised over **\$5,200!** A fantastic effort by our community. Look at all those smiles!



Below are our top fundraisers!

1. Braxton (R04) - \$700
2. Dwayne (R21) - \$535
3. Heath (R25) - \$450
4. Mtayiah (R12) - \$410
5. McKenzie (R04) - \$378
6. Maeya (R29) - \$323
7. Aiden (R02) - \$225
8. Blade (R01) - \$221
9. Lily (R01) - \$190
10. Imaiya (R02), Ahkadian (R23), Hannah (R23), Devansh (R10) - \$180



Right now, **Foodbank Victoria** is feeding 57,000 people a day - that's a lot of people who can't afford to put food on the table for their families. So, if you can, please donate and together we can make sure that no family goes to bed hungry.





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## CSEF FUNDING

### Camps, Sports and Excursion Funding – Applications for 2024

If your student(s) does not currently receive CSEF and you hold a valid healthcare/concession card, you may be eligible to apply for CSEF Funding at River Gum PS.

CSEF is an annual payment which is paid directly to your child's school and will be allocated by the school towards camps, sports and/or excursion costs for your child.

2024 CSEF Application Form attached for completion.

If you have applied for CSEF at River Gum PS in previous years you do not need to fill out a new form in 2024.

Students who currently receive the CSEF and who remain eligible will have their 2024 application automatically processed.

If your student is new to River Gum Primary School or if you have a new student in your family starting in 2024 you will need to complete a new form.

If you are unsure whether you have completed a form previously, you may complete this form again to ensure we have your current details.

### Eligibility

· Primary school student rate: \$150 per year

To be eligible for the fund, a parent or carer of a student attending a registered Government or non-government Victorian primary or secondary school must:

- on the first day of Term one
- on the first day of Term two

a) be a holder of one or more of the eligible financially-means tested cards OR be a temporary foster parent, and;

b) submit an application to the school by the due date, 28th June 2024.



If you would like any further information or would like a CSEF application form, please contact the office on 9799 1216.

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# TERM 2 CALENDAR

Keep this handy!

WEEK	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1 15- 20 April	First Day of Term 2	Foundation Fairy tale Incursion			Whole School Assembly @2:15pm Interschool Sports (Home)
2 22- 26 April			School Photos	<b>ANZAC DAY No School</b>	Interschool Sports (Away)
3 29- 3 May			District Cross Country (3-6)		
4 6-10 May			Year 6 Camp	Year 6 Camp	Year 6 Camp
5 13-17 May	Year Level Assemblies this week		Footy Gala Day		Interschool Sports (Home)
6 20- 24 May	Education Week				Interschool Sports (Away)
7 27-31 May				Division Cross Country	<b>Curriculum Day NO SCHOOL</b>
8 3-7 June					
9 10-14 June	<b>King's Birthday NO SCHOOL</b>	Lightening Prem			
10 17-21 June				World Refugee Day	Whole School Assembly @2:15pm
11 24-28 June					Last Day of Term 2 (2:30pm finish)



**STEP INTO PREP  
AT RIVER GUM  
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**SCHOOL TOURS  
FOR FOUNDATION  
2025**

**TERMS 2 & 3**

**\*BEGINNING TUESDAY 16TH  
APRIL**

**EVERY TUESDAY AT 9AM  
MEET IN THE FRONT OFFICE**



**REGISTER TODAY!**

Call: 9799 1216

Email: [river.gum.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:river.gum.ps@education.vic.gov.au)  
to book!

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## THEIR CARE

Our school has partnered with an independent provider called **TheirCare** to provide exceptional Outside School Hours Care services for our school community.

The program is available for all children at River Gum Primary School from 6:30am until 8:35am in the morning and from 3:15pm until 6:30pm each school day.

During School Holidays & Pupil Free Days the service will operate from 6:30am until 6:30pm.

Families wishing to use this service can visit the TheirCare website: [www.theircare.com.au](http://www.theircare.com.au)  
Families are eligible for a Government Rebate called the Child Care Subsidy which can reduce the cost per session by up to 90%.

More information can be obtained by contacting the school or ringing TheirCare Support Team on 1300 072 410.

TheirCare provides a stimulating and safe environment for all children. During sessions, children develop life-skills, friendships, confidence and creativity through play-based programs.



For more information see:  
<https://theircare.com.au/>

