On Wednesday 19th August grade 5/6 students went to Hampton Park library to hear a presentation from Australian author Tristan Bancks. He is a children’s and teens author who has written the “My Life” series of three books and “Two Wolves”. Two Wolves took him 5 years to write. Two Wolves is called “On the Run” for the U.S. market. Tristan spoke about how he had to explain to the U.S. editors/readers what a Caramello Koala was and who Ned Kelly was. Tristan talked about his inspirations for writing. He tends to write from life’s experiences and often exaggerates stories that have happened to him. He shared a funny story of his sister using him as a slave that he turned into a story, and him biting his sister’s toe off! Tristan encouraged our students to think about combining real life events with fiction.

Tristan explained how he writes – walking along the beach using his phone to take text and voice memo notes. He takes photos of locations for stories. He uses the writing app ‘Scrivener’ which allows outlining of chapters. When he is feeling a bit uninspired or finding it hard to sit down and work, he uses music to bring him back to his work, listening to the same songs that give him the same feelings about his work.

Tristan’s Top Five Writing Tips:

- Read Good Books.
- Mash truth and fiction together. Use your own life then add imagination.
- Get outside.
- Use technology to gather pics, music, video, voice memos.
- Rewrite and rewrite and rewrite then share your stories with the world!

All the grade 5/6 students really enjoyed the presentation and are looking forward to using some of Tristan’s ideas in their classrooms. We would like to thank Anne from Hampton Park Library for inviting us to listen to this presentation and Mr Virtue who also helped to arrange this event.

Dates to Remember

Saturday 29 August: Melb Storm Vs Cowboys (interested families notified)
Literacy and Numeracy Week 31st August to 4th September
Monday 31 August: Last Assembly for Term 3 at 2:00pm
Tuesday 1 and Thursday 3 September: Fathers Day Stall
Friday 4 September: Father’s Day Footy Draft Day from 7:30am
Tuesday 15 September: School Concert
Wednesday 16 September: School Concert
Friday 18 September: Term 3 ends. Dismissal at 2.30pm
Monday 13, 14, 15th October: Imax excursion

Reading Tip Of The Week

A great way to get children reading is by using a tablet such as an i-Pad. By taking it to the library, you and your child as members, can have OverDrive downloaded by your friendly library staff onto your tablet. Books are downloaded almost immediately and children can start reading them. I simply love this myself!

It’s unbelievable the books that are available as e-books, you will be amazed.
You can borrow more than a dozen books at one time without leaving your home.

Aphrodite Vantarakis, S.W.A.N: Foundation & Juniors Reading Recovery Teacher
Dear Parents,

You can visit our school website www.rivergumps.vic.edu.au for further information about our school vision and how we showcase our students owning their learning.

Whole School Assembly: Our next whole school assembly will be starting at 2pm on Monday 31 August at the River Gum Performing Arts Centre. At this assembly we will launch Literacy and Numeracy week with an Authors chair we will present achievement awards and our choir will perform. Students will be showcasing their work and parents are most welcome to attend.

Literacy and Numeracy Week: This year Literacy and Numeracy week will be held on Monday 31st August until Friday 4th September. We will start our week with a whole school assembly, then our Community Liaison Team will be hosting an open afternoon on Tuesday 1st September and a Fathers Day event on Friday 4th September.

Concert: Tickets are now on sale for our school concert “The Kaleidoscope of learning”. Students who are eldest in the family will be bringing home forms this week for them to request tickets. Currently we can offer 3 tickets per family for a gold coin donation. Any more tickets left over will be available on Friday 11 September for families to collect at the Office.

Our school concert will be held at the River Gum Performing Arts Centre on Tuesday 15th September and Wednesday 16th September. This year River Gum presents “The Kaleidoscope of Learning”, a showcase of our incredible students performing acts written by our specialist team! Our Student Voice will be providing the catering for this community event.

‘Creativity is a lot like looking through a kaleidoscope. You look at a set of elements, the same everyone else sees, but then reassemble those floating bits and pieces into an enticing new possibility’

Student Essential Educational Items: By now you will have received your family statements for 2016. If you require further clarification please see your friendly office staff who are more than happy to assist. The cost of Student Essential Items will remain unchanged for 2016 and has been set at $150.00 which does not include any excursions or in school visits and there are no voluntary charges requested.

EARLY BIRD OFFER - Any parent who enrols a Foundation student for 2016 and the enrolment is received prior to the end of term 3, 2015 will pay only $70 for their prep enrolment.

Additional Financial Incentives for parents in 2016: EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT - River Gum Primary will be offering a $20 per student Early Bird discount to all families for Essential School Supplies which are paid for in full ($130.00) prior to the end of school year. (Payments can be made in instalments up until Term 4 2015.)

Healthcare or Pension card holders will once again receive an educational discount in line with the new DET and SFO funding arrangements. To receive your students bookpacks for $75, parents who hold a current Healthcare Card which is valid on January 27, 2016, are required to present it the office to be photocopied. Payment of $75.00 per student must be made prior to the end of term 4, 2015.

Camps, Sport and Excursions fund: Any parent who holds a current Healthcare or Pension card applies for the CSEF prior to September 11th, 2015. This DET Financial Assistance enables parents to store funds at the school in credit to be used specifically for students to attend Camps, Sporting activities and Excursions.

Healthcare Card/Pension Card Holders please note: (As always if the healthcare/pension card is discontinued or not valid at the beginning of the school year Feb 1st, the family will then be responsible for the full cost).

Roma McKinnon
Principal

“Together we can for every child, every day, in every classroom”
EarlY Bird OFFer- Any parent who enrols a Prep student for 2016 and the enrolment is received prior to the end of Term 3, 2015 will pay only $70 for their prep enrolment.

Maths Quest: Week 7

This week there is a quest for each area of the school....

Foundation: Miss Ferreira tried to ride a scooter for the first time ever! What are all the different things they could have happened?

Junior: What are some things that are impossible?

Middle: Mr Virtue said “It is more likely than unlikely.” What might he be talking about?

Senior: The probability of something happening is 1/3 (1 chance out of 3). What could it be?

Remember! Once you have completed the quest, to show your teacher and colour in your tally in your classroom.
Bring your Dad, Grandad, Uncle or other special person to celebrate Father’s Day at RGPS with a **fun footy fitness** circuit!

You can wear your **footy colours** (AFL, soccer or rugby), and there will be a **yummy breakfast**! Plus it’s all for a good cause.

**FOOTY DRAFT DAY**

**When:** Friday 4th September 7.45-8.30am

**Wear:** Footy colours!!

**Bring:** Gold coin donation to support people living with cancer

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On Tuesday 1st September my family are going to come and help me create a Writer's Notebook page as part of Literacy and Numeracy Week!

**Write Right**

My family are coming to River Gum between 1.40 and 3.15pm. It’s going to be fun!

Bring your family along to make a Writer’s Notebook page with you, too!