

# Primary Newsletter

**Number 1:** Wednesday, 30<sup>th</sup> January 2019

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**The Rockhampton  
Grammar School**

Established 1881

## From the Head of Primary

### Dear Parents

Welcome everyone to the 2019 school year at The Rockhampton Grammar Primary School. I would like to extend a very warm welcome to all of our new families and trust your association with our School will be very rewarding. We are commencing this year with 428 students in Primary of whom 91 are new students.

### Parent Social Function

I would like to extend an invitation to all parents of Primary students to attend a social gathering at the Rowing Club on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February from 5:00pm – 7:00pm. This is an opportunity to catch up or meet some other families in the School particularly those that are new to our community.

I will send out further information in the next few weeks once this has been organised fully.

### Drop Off / Pick Up Zone

When dropping your child/children off each morning and collecting them each afternoon, please remain in your car so you can move forward when required. The middle lane is for through traffic only.

Students are to cross at the crossing closest to the stairs.

Students are to enter the School either side of The Duggan Hall – not through the Primary Office.

Your child will receive a display card with their surname on it. If you would please place this behind the passenger sun visor or on the passenger dashboard, this will assist us with a speedy collection of children each afternoon. Teachers are on duty until 3:40pm.

It is recommended that all students are dropped off and picked up on Upper Quarry Street.

### Primary School Office Hours

As of today, the Primary Office will be open from 7:30am to 3:30pm daily. Duty Teachers will contact parents if students are not collected by 3:40pm and if necessary, they will be taken to the After School Care room.

For more information or an enrolment pack on our 'Before and After School Care Program' please contact Mrs Adeina Shackleton on 49360 880.

### Technology Information Session for Parents

The Headmaster and I would like to discuss with interested parents some issues in relation to Technology and Primary aged children on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March. There will also be a chance to discuss other global aspects of your child's education at our School.

### Homework

There are many points of view on homework. Some parents/teachers think it is essential others believe it is a waste of time. Some families enjoy the experience, others dread this time.

Our School Policy is the following-  
Homework may take many forms e.g. reading, research, revision, projects, completing schoolwork or specific homework sheets. Many students have outside school commitments on some evenings and therefore adjust their homework schedule accordingly.

Suggested maximum amounts of homework per day should be:

- Prep – at teacher's discretion
- Year 1 – at teacher's discretion
- Year 2 - 15 minutes
- Year 3 - 20 minutes
- Year 4 - 20 minutes
- Year 5 - 30 minutes
- Year 6 - 40 minutes

No homework should be given on weekends with the exception of long-term assignments/projects. All children should complete their homework unless their parents notify teachers. There should be no homework set on the holidays.

## Emails

In this technological world, much of the communication between teachers and parents is via email. You will find that teachers will email you quite regularly with regards to events, happenings and celebrations. Please ensure that the school has your current email address.

## Naming of Clothing

Please check that your child's uniform, hat, school bag, lunch box, water bottle, books etc. are **clearly named**. It is almost impossible to return items that have no name on them.

## Boarder Long Weekend / Monitoring

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February is a **normal school day** for Primary School; it is a pupil free day for Secondary School only.

## Extension Programs and Learning Support Programs

Many of the classes this week will be involved in some tasks to determine how students are travelling in terms of literacy and numeracy. These results along with last year's assessment, NAPLAN and teacher identification will determine which children will receive support or extension.

The groups that Mrs Moran and Mrs Robertson instruct will be limited to give these students the best outcomes. You will be notified if your child has been invited to attend.

## Primary School Orientation Handbook

Please take the time to read this document as many of your questions will be answered in this booklet.

## Parent Information Evenings

Over the next few weeks, teachers will be holding a parent information evening. I encourage you to take this opportunity to catch up with your classroom teacher so that you are aware of the routines and expectations in the classroom.

## Permission Forms

A 2019 Permission Form was posted home at the end of last year with our Orientation information. This form enables the School to organise all transport for students in and around Rockhampton (eg sport, theatre productions etc). Please complete this form and return it to the Primary Office as soon as possible. A copy of this form is attached with this newsletter and is also available from the Primary School Office.

## Life Education

The Life Education Mobile Classroom will be at our School from Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> February until Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February. There will be a parent session on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February commencing at 9am if you would like to know more about these sessions.

If you **DO NOT** wish your child to visit the Life Education Classroom please advise your child's teacher.

## Friday Sport

This week, students in Years 5 and 6 will have an opportunity to select their Friday sport for this term. Sports on offer will be determined at the AGM this afternoon.

Training for these sports will be on a Thursday afternoon from 3:15pm - 4:15pm commencing next week.

Please check the noticeboard outside Mrs Whitehead's room (P12) or outside the Year 6 classrooms for sport updates and team lists.

Regards  
Mr Geoff Hadwen  
Head of Primary

## Cooking Helpers

Parent helpers are required to assist with cooking lessons for students in Prep to Year 3. If you are able to assist with your child's class, please advise their class teacher. Would you please also advise the class teacher of any food allergies / intolerances or cultural dietary requirements?

## Tuckshop

A Tuckshop menu for Term 1 is attached with this newsletter. It is also on our website – <http://rgs.qld.edu.au/rgs-tuckshop>

Tuckshop is not available at all for Prep students. Students in Years 1 to 6 are able to order tuckshop at morning tea only.

## Book Club

The first Issue of book club will be handed out this week. Orders close **3pm Friday 8<sup>th</sup> February**. Orders can be paid online - [scholastic.com.au/LOOP](http://scholastic.com.au/LOOP) - by cheque (made payable to Scholastic Australia) or cash.

## Cross Country Training:

Cross Country training will commence on Saturday the 2<sup>nd</sup> of February.

Each week there will be two training sessions:  
Monday Rugby Park 5pm – 6pm and Saturday RGS Bottom Oval 8am – 9am. These training sessions are open for Primary and Secondary students.

While Cross Country will be the focus, these running sessions are an excellent preseason idea to build fitness that can transfer to other sports such as netball, soccer, rugby, swimming or rowing. Also, the sessions are a wonderful chance for families to run and exercise together.

Looking forward to seeing you out on the track.

Mr Lachlan Libke

## Dates to Remember

<b>2019</b>	
<b>January</b>	
30	Term 1 commences for students
<b>February</b>	
4	Year 2 Parent Session 5pm
5	Year 3 Parent Session 5pm
6	Year 4 Parent Session 5pm Prep Parent Session 6pm
7	Year 5 Parent Session 4:30pm Year 6 Parent Session 4:30pm Year 1 Parent Session 5pm
7-15	Life Education Mobile Classroom
11	Year 6 Leadership Day - Ritamada
15	Friday Sport Commences
22	Parent Social Function – RGS Rowing Club
28	Interschool Chess Competition – Years 4-6
<b>March</b>	
14	Technology Information Session
21-22	Year 4 Camp - Ritamada
26	Primary School Ballgames and 800m races
27	Primary School Athletics Day
<b>April</b>	
5	Whole School Cross Country – End of Term 1
24	Term 2 Commences
25	ANZAC Day

## RGS Capricorn Coast Bus Service

### Yeppoon / Emu Park Bus Routes

Term 1 2019

Fare: \$4.40 each way (including GST)

Bookings for the RGS bus service to and from the Capricorn Coast 2019 are now open.

<http://www.rgs.qld.edu.au/bus>

Please return your booking form at your earliest convenience. Bookings will be confirmed in order of receipt of applications.

This Monday - Friday service exclusively serves students of The Rockhampton Grammar School. Buses operate one run each morning and afternoon on School days.

## RGS Music Council

The RGS Music Council parent group supports students in the co-curricular music program from Years 4-12 at the School.

Involvement in the co-curricular music program of choirs and bands requires that the student join the RGS Music Council.

Each year the RGS Music Council invoices students who are involved with co-curricular music to provide the financial support required for these activities.

The RGS Music Council works in direct consultation with the Music Department to provide any assistance that is needed to ensure the continuation of the rich and musically rewarding co-curricular music experience. We are proud that our financial assistance can benefit music students in their selected co-curricular activities.

The first meeting of the year will be 7:30 pm Thursday 7th February in the Music Rooms of the Islay Lee Building. All parents and guardians of students in the co-curricular music program are welcome.

Phillippa Flockhart, Secretary

## RGS Parent Association

The RGS Parent Association is the representative group for ALL parents to the School. Our objectives are to -

- Engage with parents, staff and school leaders
- Advise the School on matters that are affecting students and families
- Provide feedback to the School and make recommendations on infrastructure, academic and co-curricular areas
- Promote School community
- Raise awareness of the Parent Association

The RGS PA meets monthly, usually the third Friday of each month (Ritamada each August) and with two evening meetings each year. There are tours to facilities such as Ritamada, the School Farm, and Belmont; and social activities such as the Mother's Day and Father's Day events annually, and the Ball bi-annually. All parents and guardians of students at RGS are welcome.

The first meeting of the year will be 8:30am Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February in the Boardroom. There will be an Extra-Ordinary General Meeting to ratify the decision to change the financial year of the RGS Parent Association from 31<sup>st</sup> December to 30<sup>th</sup> June. This will be followed by a General Meeting.

For further information, contact  
[rgspapresident@rgs.qld.edu.au](mailto:rgspapresident@rgs.qld.edu.au) or  
[rgspasecretary@rgs.qld.edu.au](mailto:rgspasecretary@rgs.qld.edu.au)

Phillippa Flockhart, Secretary