

From the Principal...

Dear Parents and Carers,



Well done to our sporting teams and thank you to their coaches: Mr Garcia, Mrs McNamara, Ms Ryan and Mr France.

This week, I am at another school conducting a review. This is a real privilege for me as I learn so much when reviewing another school against the well-researched school improvement tool. At the end of each day, I find myself reflecting not only on the school I am at but on the progress we have made at Runcorn State School. The focus this year has been reading, writing and inquiry. Inquiry has been the new piece of work. An inquiry school believe that everyone: **students, staff and community are all learners.** In an inquiry school, students have voice, share ideas, ask deep questions and are curious.

I have enjoyed visiting every classroom and listening to the type of questions that students pose to each other and to their teacher. There is a balance between closed questions: questions that have a single response and open questions: those have multiple responses. There is also a balance between questions coming from teachers versus students. Children are naturally curious, so when they ask questions, please give them a response. This is how curiosity turns to knowledge.

Next week, students in Year 3 and 5 will sit the NAPLAN test. At Runcorn, students will complete the paper-based test. Thank you to the P&C in advance for the breakfast that they will put on for the students in Years 3 and 5. It is important that the students go to bed early, have a good sleep and are organised in the morning.

School Council

We have the next School Council meeting on **Monday 10 May at 3.15pm**. Thank you to Jasmin for nominating to be on the council. New parent and staff members will be formally nominated at this meeting.

Student leadership

Our senior leaders play a very important role in the operations of the school. It is therefore, important that students realise the responsibility that the role carries and that they are well suited to the responsibilities. The process for student leadership will begin this term. The process will be explained to students and we will also have a parent session on Monday 17 May at 3.15pm. Students can attend this session with their parents. The process is thorough and includes observing students on camp and at school, nominations, interviews, speeches and an election. If you are a parent of a Year 5 student, I encourage you to come. Please let your child's teacher know if you intend to attend.

Prep 2022 Information sessions

The first information session for potential Prep parents will be held on **Thursday 13 May**. The Prep teachers will run the session and will have the answers to your questions about what a prep classroom looks like and what your children will be learning. If you have a prep age child, please consider completing your enrolment and coming to this session. There will be a second one next term.

Michelle D'Netto

From the Deputy Principal...

120-Year Celebration Community Arts Fair – Friday, 15 October 2021, 5:30pm – 8:30pm This year Runcorn State School will be celebrating our 120-year anniversary. Over the past 120 years Runcorn State School has grown from a small school in the middle of a lush farming community to a multi-cultural school with a wonderful community spirit bounded to 2 busy main roads. We are immensely proud of our diversity. We acknowledge our traditional owners of the land on which Runcorn State School sits and celebrate families representing over 50+ countries from all over the world.

To celebrate, we will be holding a **120-year Celebration Community Arts Fair** on Friday 15/10/21, 5.30-8.00pm (Term 4 Week 2). As part of this event we invite children and their families from Runcorn State School to perform either a single item or 15-minute maximum performance to showcase as many of our cultural heritage groups as possible.

We would be honoured if families at Runcorn State School would volunteer to provide a dance, singing or instrumental item on this evening. Please contact Roberta for more details <u>rmatl2@eq.edu.au</u> or 3323 8736.

australian curriculum ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING AUTHORITY



NAPLAN 2021

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) assesses literacy and numeracy skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life. Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 participate in the annual NAPLAN tests in reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. The assessment provides parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the tests. NAPLAN is just one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process – it does not replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance. NAPLAN also provides schools, education authorities and governments with information about how education programs are working and whether young Australians are achieving important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy.

NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through their regular school curriculum. In 2021 Students at Runcorn State School will be completing the paper assessments. Students are assessed on the same literacy and numeracy curriculum content, regardless of whether they complete the tests online or on paper. Results for both formats can be reported on the same NAPLAN assessment scale.

On its own, NAPLAN is not a test that can be studied for and students are not expected to do so. You can support your child by reassuring them that NAPLAN is just one part of their school program, and by reminding them on the day to simply do their best. ACARA does not recommend excessive preparation for NAPLAN or the use of services by coaching providers.

Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the types of questions in the tests and will provide appropriate support and guidance. Individual student performance is shown on a national achievement scale for each assessment. A result at the national minimum standard indicates that the student has demonstrated the basic literacy and numeracy skills needed to participate fully in that year level. A NAPLAN individual student report will be issued later in the year.

All students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 are expected to participate in the annual NAPLAN assessment. Students with disability may qualify for adjustments that reflect the support normally provided for classroom assessments. Parents may request their children be withdrawn from the assessments. Please contact the Office regarding this. Where possible, schools may arrange for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during the testing week.

Tuesday 11 May	Wednesday 12 May	Thursday 13 May	Friday 14 May
Language	Reading	Numeracy	Make up tests
conventions This	Students read a	This test assesses	Starts 9:15am
test assesses	range of informative,	number and algebra,	Starts 12.00pm
spelling, grammar	imaginative and	measurement and	
and punctuation	persuasive texts and	geometry, and	
Starts 9.15am	answer related	statistics and	
	questions	probability	
	Starts 9:15am	Starts 9:15am	
Writing			
Students are			
provided with a			
'writing stimulus'			
(sometimes called a			
'prompt' – an idea or			
topic) and asked to			
write a response in a			
particular genre			
(narrative or			
persuasive writing)			
Starts 12:00pm			

Roberta Matlock

From the Teaching & Learning Coach...

Premier's Reading Challenge 2021

Reading plays an important part in students' lives during their school years and beyond. It allows children to actively engage their imagination and opens up a world of educational opportunities.

The reading period for the 2021 Premier's Reading Challenge will **commence on Monday 10 May and closes Friday 27 August**.

This year the Premier has invited all state and non-state school students to take on the challenge:

- Prep to Year 2 must read or experience at least 20 books (Students in Prep and Year 1 classes will complete the challenge as a class)
- Years 3 and 4 must read at least 20 books, and
- Years 5 to 9 must read at least 15 books.

Experiencing books can include shared reading, listening to stories, or reading picture books. The aim for the 2021 challenge is to engage more students reading more books than ever before. Every student who completes the challenge will receive a Certificate of Achievement signed by the Premier.

Individual Record forms will be distributed this week (Students in Yr 2-6). When you complete your forms please return them signed to your classroom teacher. For more information about the Premier's Reading Challenge, please visit: readingchallenge.education.qld.gov.au.

This year you will receive a permission form allowing us to electronically pass on the first and last name of your child to the challenge organisers. Without this permission your child will not receive the signed certificate from the Premier.

You can play a big part in your children's future by encouraging them to be part of this positive initiative. I look forward to seeing as many of our students as possible take part in the 2021 Premier's Reading Challenge. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me via the front office or email <u>rlasa2@eq.edu.au</u>

Brisbane City Council Libraries Gold Star Reading Club

The Gold Star Reading Club will kick off in Council libraries across the city on Saturday 1 May 2021.

There are four great reasons for children to get involved in the 2021 Gold Star Reading Club.

- 1. Membership to the Gold Star Reading Club is FREE!
- 2. The Gold Star Reading Club can help children improve their reading and literacy skills.
- 3. Children will be rewarded for reading with exciting monthly incentives coloured pencils, a foldable frisbee and a skipping rope.
- 4. It's FUN! Children will have fun sharing their reading experiences with family and friends.

This is a great opportunity for parents to share in their children's reading achievements.

To register your child for the Gold Star Reading Club, simply visit <u>brisbane.qld.gov.au/libraries</u> or your local library to complete a registration form.

For more information about the Gold Star Reading Club, visit your local library or call Council on (07) 3403 8888.

Happy Reading!

Rachel La Sala

2021 Term Dates

Term	DATES	
2	19 April to 25 June	
3	12 July to 17 September	
4	5 October to 10 December	

Dates of Significance – Term 2

DAY	DATE	EVENT
Thurs	6 May	Mothers Day Stall
Fri	7 May	Mothers Day Stall
Mon	10 May	School Council, 3:15pm
Tues	11 May	NAPLAN (Yrs 3 and 5 only)
Wed	12 May	NAPLAN (Yrs 3 and 5 only)
Thur	13 May	NAPLAN (Yrs 3 and 5 only)
Thur	13 May	Prep 2022 Information Session, 3:30pm – 4:30pm
Fri	14 May	Prep 2022 School Tour, 9:30am
Fri	14 May	Sports Gala Day (Yrs 5 & 6 only)
Mon	17 May	Parent Info Session – Student Leadership Program, 3:15pm – 4:00pm
Mon	17 May	P&C Meeting, 6:30pm
Fri	21 May	Parent Information Session – Inquiry Learner Assets, 8:45am – 9:30am
Wed	26 May	Sorry Day
Thurs	27 May – 3 June	Reconciliation Week
Thurs	3 June	MABO Day
Fri	11 June	Parent Information Session – Speech Language Development (TBC), 8:45am – 9:30am
Tues	15 June	Strings Family Afternoon, 3:30pm
Mon	21 June	Senior Athletics
Tues	22 June	Senior Athletics
Thurs	24 June	Junior Athletics
Fri	25 June	Prep 2022 School Tour, 9:30am
Fri	25 June	Last Day of Term 2

From the Admin Team...

Cashless School

The school is now a cashless school. Our preferred methods of payment are BPoint and Direct Transfer.

Student Resource Scheme (SRS) 2021

Thank you to those parents who have already sent through payments. If you participate in this scheme, your students will receive resources provided by the school and they will have access to these for the school year. If you wish to pay the scheme in instalments, please contact the office to arrange a payment plan. If you do not wish to participate in this scheme, forms still need to be signed and returned and parents will need to provide the necessary items.

Medical Conditions

If you have indicated upon enrolment that your child has certain medical conditions, the school will require prescribed medication as well as an accompanying health action plan tailored to the child. If you require any further information, please contact the school office.

Administering Medication

If your child requires to receive medication during school hours, our First Aid staff are happy to assist, however due to Departmental procedures, we will require medical authorisation from a prescribing health practitioner (ie doctor, dentist, optometrist but **not** a pharmacist), including those medicines bought over-the-counter (including paracetamol or alternative medicines). Also, the form "Administration of medication at school record sheet" Section 1 must also be completed and signed by the parent/carer and submitted with the medication.

The medication container **must** have a valid pharmacy label which includes the name of the prescribing health practitioner, to confirm that it is prescription medication, and the student has received a dose at home without any ill effects prior to the school staff administering the medication.

For a copy of this Departmental procedure or for more information, please speak with our friendly office staff.



Music Matters

Senior Choir

A reminder that Choir rehearsals are now weekly for everyone.

Thank you to all students who performed for the Anzac Day ceremony. The feedback I received about the Choir was extremely positive and I am very proud of all students.

Dates for the Diary- Term 3

- Week 2 Karawatha Band and Strings Camp
- Week 6 Wednesday August 18 Choral and Instrumental Evening- Sunnybank SHS
- Week 7 Tuesday August 24 Singfest for Year 5 and 6 Senior Choir members

Mariel Hopper - Specialist Music Teacher <u>mxhop2@eq.edu.au</u>

From the Strings Teacher

The String Students have been working persistently on their new repertoire over the last two weeks. They have learnt new notes, scales, technique and are tackling some challenging (but very exciting and inspiring) new pieces in ensemble. Well done Students in taking on the challenge of these new tasks with persistence, organisation and confidence.

Junior Strings

The responses for the Community Consultation – Change in Junior String (Year 4) Rehearsal are finalised and the Junior String Community **has agreed** to changing the Lunch time rehearsal – Tuesdays 11.15 - 11.50 to <u>Tuesday afternoons from 3.00pm to 4.00pm</u>. Thank you, Junior String Community, for responding and supporting the change in the Junior String Rehearsal time.

Rehearsals for Junior Strings will be on every Tuesday Afternoon from 3.00pm to 4.00pm starting next week (Week 4). These rehearsals will be held in the Music Room located in B Block. Students will finish rehearsal and will need to be picked up from in front of the Office at 4.00pm. The dates for the rest of Term 2 are as follows:

Junior String (Year 4) Rehearsals		
Week in	Week in Date and Time	
Term		
Week 4	Tuesday 11 th May - 3.00pm to 4.00pm	
Week 5	Tuesday 18 th May - 3.00pm to 4.00pm	
Week 6	Tuesday 25 th May - 3.00pm to 4.00pm	
Week 7	Tuesday 1 st June - 3.00pm to 4.00pm	
Week 8	Tuesday 8 th June - 3.00pm to 4.00pm	
Week 9	Tuesday 15 th June - 3.00pm to 4.00pm	
Week 10	Tuesday 22 nd June - 3.00pm to 4.00pm	

Junior String Students who attend PCYC on Tuesday Afternoons will need to see one of the PCYC staff and fill out a PCYC – Extra Curricular Activity Form. On Tuesday afternoons, Students will need to tell the PCYC staff that they are present and are going to Junior String Rehearsal before they come up to the Music Room.

I look forward to seeing all of the Year 4 Junior String Students on Tuesday, 11th May, 2021 (Week 4) at 3pm. Thank you again for supporting these beginning musicians.

Year 3 Strings

The final pieces of the String playing puzzle are being but together by the Year 3 String Students. The Students are working on playing open strings with the bow; learning the new notes G, F# and E where they are playing pizzicato; and constantly checking that they have the correct posture, set-up and are reading the music. These String Students certainly have been persistent in working diligently on these complex skills of playing a String Instrument.

Until next time enjoy practising your instruments,

Andrew Biedermann abied1@eq.edu.au

Student Absence Line

To advise the school of your child's absence, please text your child's name, class and reason and length of absence to:

0429 928 611



(save this number to your phone)

or leave your message on (07) 3323 8777, Option 1.

Due to the Department of Education's procedures regarding student protection and safety, it is the Parents'/Carers' responsibility to notify the school every day their student is absent. If you do not advise the school of your child's absence, Parents/Carers will receive a notification stating your child has been marked absent and to please provide an explanation for the absence.



State School Hyar diki is abant, these phone the Utudent Absence Line before 845am SMS: 0429 928 611 (Tet Ority) OR 07 33238611 (Tet Ority) OR 07 33238777 and Pres Option 1 and give the following information: "Your ranse and certised details Bease for of abase: "Buy/toke of abase;" "Www.runcornss.eq.edu.au

Runcorn

If you have misplaced yours, please collect one from the office.

Gala Day

Girls Basketball

The Girls' Basketball Teams had an exciting day at Runcorn State High School. Two Year 6 teams and three Year 5 teams took part, supervised by **Mrs Sutherland** and **Ms Ryan**. Not even the rain could dampen our spirits, although unfortunately one Year 5 team, Banana Bockets, had their game cancelled due to the inclement weather. Those who did play reported that our opposing teams were all good sports. The high school referees were also friendly and helped to make each call a learning moment. We look forward to our next Gala Day on Friday 14th May.

Boys Basketball

Rain didn't dampen the spirits of the RSS boys' basketball teams this past Friday as they all gave their best. The seniors took out two of their three games with a tough loss by only four points. The two juniors' teams were in all of the action in their matches but were unable to break through for a win. We are all looking forward to training hard to be ready for the next exciting Gala Day.

Girls Soccer

Runcorn's girls' soccer players were excited to join together in their teams, not even allowing the rain to dampen their spirits. They gave their all as they searched for each goal, knowing bigger and better things were to come. Friday 14 May, here we come.

Boys Soccer

Despite the wet weather, RSS boys' soccer teams had a fun-filled day playing on the field. No one gave up as we chased that ball to the very last second. Despite some goals scored against us, we are stronger and ready for our next game day.

District Cross Country

The three main themes of the day were fun, mud and sun. From our first walk through we knew that we had entered another world filled with mud left over from last week. With mini creek crossings and boggy patches, the children questioned if they had been dropped off at the right location. This didn't stop them all from lining up for their races and putting their best foot forward. By the end we had muddy feet, personal bests by all and plenty of stories to tell.











Rebel Sport

We have recently been able to purchase some resources for the school thanks to our parents and friends linking Runcorn State School to their Rebel Sports Member account. Each time you purchase something the school receives 10% of your purchase price to go towards buying new sporting equipment. Help us out if you can. Contact Rebel Sport to see who your purchases are supporting.



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From the Prep Teachers

Key Dates Prep 2021/2022

School Tours	Friday 25/6/2021 Week 10, Term 2
9:30am – 10:00am	Friday 6/8/2021 Week 4, Term 3
RSVP to the office 3323 8777	Friday 17/9/2021 Week 10, Term 3
Prep 2022	Thursday 13/5/2021 Week 4, Term 2 3:30pm – 4:30pm
Information Sessions	Thursday 5/8/2021 Week 4, Term 3 5:30pm – 6:30pm
Get to Know You Sessions	Week 3, Term 4 Wednesday 20 th October 2021 Thursday 21 st October 2021 Friday 22 nd October 2021
Pre-Prep Sessions	4 sessions over 4 days
	Friday 22/10/2021 Friday 29/10/2021
	Friday 5/11/2021
	Friday 12/11/2021
	9:30am – 10:30am
Orientation Day	Wednesday 17 th November 2021 Thursday 18 th November 2021 Friday 19 th November 2021
	9:15am – 10:30am
January Prep 2022 Parent Information	Friday 21 st January 2022 Time TBA

Prep 2022 Parent Information Session Thursday 13/5 3:30pm- 4:30pm

Please join us for a Prep 2022 Parent Information Session.

Come and see inside the Prep classrooms, meet the current Prep teachers and members of our community, and find out further information about what Prep looks like at Runcorn State School. You will be able to ask questions and collect an enrolment pack. For further information please contact Michele Stewart mxste7@eq.edu.au

Prep 2021 AEDC - Playing our part to build a national picture of child health

In early 2021, our school, along with thousands of others across the country will begin preparations for the fifth Australian Early Development Census (AEDC).

The AEDC gives us a national picture of the development, health and wellbeing of children in their first year of full-time school. Since 2009, the census results have helped communities, schools and governments plan services and develop better policies to target support for children and families.

Children don't miss any class time, and parents/carers don't need to supply schools with any new information for the census. The AEDC gives us data at a school and community level - it isn't an assessment of individual children.

Some teachers have also noticed that completing the assessments made them more aware of the needs of individual children and the class as a whole and that the census results are useful in planning for transitions to Year 1 and developing class programs.

Participation in the AEDC is voluntary. Parents/carers don't need to take any action unless they choose not to include their children in the census. To find out more about the census and how communities are using the data to help children and families visit the AEDC website: <u>www.aedc.gov.au</u>.

If you have any questions, you can contact Michele Stewart on mxste7@eq.edu.au

Michele Stewart AEDC Coordinator

Staff Take on the March Charge!

During the month of March, 16 staff members from Runcorn participated in the March Charge. Each staff member committed to walking or running a nominated distance for the Cancer Council for the entire month of March. In doing so, our staff raised over \$2500 to help the Caner Council charge ahead with cancer research. A big thank you and congratulations to all who walked or ran and to those who supported with a donation.

Some of the staff who participated!





P&C News... NAPLAN Breakfast

We are hosting a NAPLAN breakfast for the grade 3 & 5 students next week. If you can help by preparing the food from 7:30am in the tuckshop, or help serve from 8:15am please let Ashley know on <u>rsspcevents@outlook.com</u>

Generosity Day

On **Friday 21 May 2021** the P&C will be hosting a *Generosity Day*. On this day we ask that you bring a food item for donation to the Tuckshop. Please remember these items will be used to make items in our Tuckshop. Please ensure they are unopened and in date. Some ideas you may wish to donate are:

- ✓ Strawberry Jam
- ✓ Honey
- ✓ Vegemite
- ✓ Tomato Paste
- ✓ Icing Mixture
- ✓ Vanilla Essence
- ✓ Lasagne Pasta Sheets
- ✓ Rice
- ✓ Tinned diced tomatoes
- ✓ Tinned Pineapple
- ✓ Paper towels
- ✓ Dishwashing liquid

- ✓ Crushed Garlic
- ✓ Beef Stock Cubes
- ✓ Pasta
- ✓ Tomato Sauce
- ✓ BBQ Sauce
- ✓ Mayonnaise
- ✓ Baking Paper
- ✓ Alfoil
- ✓ Tinned Corn Kernels
- ✓ Tinned Sliced Beetroot
- ✓ Brown Paper Bags

Volunteers

Our Tuckshop relies on the generosity of volunteers to make it a success, and to offer students and staff an extensive menu 5 days a week. To help make the load lighter for our Convenor, we need as many helpers as we can get – mums, dads, and grandparents. This year we have lost some of our dedicated Tuckshop Volunteers due to their children moving on to high school. Volunteering in the Tuckshop on a weekly, fortnightly or monthly basis is a great opportunity to participate in the school community and meet other parents. If you can spare as little as 30

minutes after school drop-off, or a couple of hours from 9am-11am, please contact Jodie at <u>tuckshop@runcornss.eq.edu.au</u> or via the Runcorn P&C Facebook Page. We have a variety of jobs available.



Flexi Schools

The preference is for the Tuckshop to continue to provide **online orders only.** Students may purchase ice blocks, ice creams and other frozen treats only at first break. We strongly encourage you to order afternoon tea online, as afternoon tea over the counter sales are dependent on having volunteers to serve. Ice blocks can continue to be ordered online and picked up by your child from the tuckshop. Please refer to flexi schools for more information.

Cupcakes

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Don't forget the Tuckshop still offers cupcakes or ice blocks for any special celebration. These can be ordered on Flexi schools and **must** be ordered at least 3 days in advance. Please see the birthday option in the Flexi schools app. No over the phone or over the counter orders can be taken.

Uniform Shop

The Uniform Shop is open by appointment only. Please use this QR Code to book your appointment. We will continue with the online ordering via email <u>rssuniform@outlook.com</u> and we will deliver your order to your child's classroom as soon as we can.



If you have any old uniforms that you would like to donate please send them in with your child and let us know via email (<u>rssuniform@outlook.com</u>) and we will collect from their classroom.

We currently have for sale the old-style dress & skort at dramatically reduced prices. For a limited time only, the old-style dress will be on sale for the incredible price of \$10, and the skort for \$5. We have limited stock in all sizes so be sure to get in quick to avoid disappointment! Orders can be made via email: <u>rssuniform@outlook.com</u>. These uniforms can be worn until the end of the 2021 school year.

Facebook

Don't forget to like us on Facebook *Runcorn State School P&C Association* to stay up to date on everything!!

Debbie Linford, President,

Parents & Citizens Association, Runcorn State School, E: <u>rsspcpresident@outlook.com</u>

Student Banking...

School banking services will cease to be offered in our school and all Queensland state schools from 31 July 2021. In line with several other states and territories, the Department of Education's decision is in response to the <u>Australian Securities and Investments Commission's (ASIC) Review of School Banking Programs</u> report in December 2020. Students will be able to maintain their banking relationship directly with their bank. Consumer and financial literacy will continue to be delivered to students as part of the Prep to Year 10 Australian Curriculum, including <u>Moneysmart</u> and the <u>BuySmart competition</u>.

Please claim any token prizes by week 8 (7/6/21) to ensure arrival. If parents are unsure about their token total - please leave student name, class & ID number with office. Alternatively, please fill out prize list with your child's name, class & student ID number and I will be able to let you know if there are enough accumulated tokens.





Community News...



T PCHESS



Coaching days & time: Tuesday afternoons (3:05 - 3:50pm).

Venue: Room C6 – Runcorn State School.

Dates: 2021, Term 2 – May 4 to June 22.

Price: \$100 per student (8 week Topchess Program).

Notes: Suitable for Prep to Grade 6. Book in any time and only pay for the remaining weeks. All members will be sent the Topchess Covid 19 Safe Plan and are reminded of the requirements during class.





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