2015 Term 4, Week 7 - 20 November 2015

Principal's Message

Information on: the RPA Summer Carnival, Year 6 Musical and Closure of Ministry and Farewell Cocktails.

Ravenswood Carnival

The weather forecast is looking good for Sunday's RPA Summer Carnival and I am looking forward to welcoming all to the Carnival for its opening at 10.00am. Parents and school staff have been working intensely over the past week to ensure that all of the final arrangements are in place. Mrs Anne Johnstone has accepted my invitation to attend and will be there in an informal capacity having her first experience of the welcoming Ravenswood community.

Year 6 Musical

Those lucky enough to have tickets for the final performance of the Year 6 musical, Alice in Wonderland, Jr. are in for a treat this evening. I attended last night and the girls' performances were lively and highly entertaining. Girls also worked in front and back of house roles. Thanks are due to the Year 6 teachers and Performing Arts staff who have enabled this wonderful learning experience for each and every girl in Year 6.

Closure of Ministry and Farewell Cocktails

What a lovely week I have had with the occasion of the Closure of Ministry Service with the students, staff and invited guests on Tuesday, followed by Cocktails on the Rooftop Terrace in the evening. I was deeply moved to be presented with the commemorative book Overflowing with stories produced by students and staff. I look forward to many hours of reading and reviewing pictures taken over the past 11 years.

Ms Vicki Steer

Chaplain's Message

Life is full of rituals and cycles. We embed them in our cultures and routines. Not only do they ground us and provide a foundation which helps us deal with a world which is constantly in flux and change but they also remind us of things that we hold to be important and which we value.

As the Christmas holiday season approaches once again, I invite you to have some of what we name in education as mindful agency about how you engage with this time of year. In other words, may you take some time to think about what the season is about, what is important about it for you and why you do the things you do, as part of the ritual and routine of festivities. My prayer is that you might find God in the midst of the busyness or that maybe God might find a new way to connect with you, just as you think about how you might meaningfully connect with the people you love and value in your life journey. After all, that is the point of rituals and celebrations - they bring us together as people. Although, what we choose to do with that time and how we choose to engage with it and draw good and/or helpful things from it, is up to us. It is something to think about. God bless.
Whole School

Campion Booklists

Booklists for all Year Groups are available and can be completed online by going to https://order.campion.com.au/#schoolCodeView?schoolID=1.0746.

When ordering online you will need to use the following Access Code: HU24.

All Secondary School orders placed online by the due date, Friday 4 December, are delivered to your home or office during the week ending Friday 15 January 2016.

All Junior School orders placed online by the due date, Friday 4 December, are delivered directly to the school for distribution on the first day of Term 1 2016.

Placing your order online as soon as possible is the best way to ensure your daughter receives all available items in time for Term 1 2016.

Mrs Kate Christodoulides, Coordinator of Operations

School Student Transport Scheme

The School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS) has been replaced by the School Opal card.

Students who already have a school student travel pass, do not need to apply for the School Opal card. The cards will be sent to Ravenswood at the beginning of the 2016 school year.

An application is needed if your daughter is:

- Commencing Kindergarten in 2016
- Progressing from Year 2 to Year 3 in 2016
- Progressing from Year 6 to Year 7 in 2016
How to Apply


Step 2: Print*, sign and date the completed application, then submit it to Ravenswood for endorsement.

Step 3: Ravenswood will send the endorsed application to Transport for NSW. Once approved, the School Opal card will be sent to the address provided on the application.

* Please ensure you sign the printed form before handing it in to Reception otherwise the form will not be processed.

If you have already submitted an SSTS form, these will still be accepted by Transport for NSW.

Junior School

Head of Junior School

Information on: the K-2 Christmas Nativity play, Year 6's performance of Alice in Wonderland, Jr, the End-of-Term 4 Chapel Service, Years 1-6 2016 Orientation, school reports, the Combined Christmas Carol Service and Term 4 dates for your diary.

Junior School was entertained with a marvellous Kindergarten, Years 1 and 2 Christmas Nativity play last week. Kindergarten girls sparkled, Year 1 brought humour to the proceedings as The Mice and Year 2 narrated and brought out the true meaning of Christmas.

This week saw Year 6 girls shine in their presentation of Alice in Wonderland, Jr. The quality of the performances was truly outstanding. Congratulations to all of our recent performers.

Our End-of-term Chapel Service is always wonderful and brings out the true meaning of Christmas. We enjoy seeing parents attending Chapel whenever it is a possibility.

We have a busy last two weeks of term. Our new students and their parents will be joining us for Years 1-6 2016 Orientation on Wednesday 25 November from 9.00am. Thank you to those Class Parents who will be able to join us to assist passing information to new parents.

Reports will be sent home with the girls at the end of next week.

The Combined Christmas Carol Service between Ravenswood/Gordon Uniting and Sydney Covenant Uniting Church in the Ravenswood Chapel, will be held on Sunday 29 November commencing at 7.00pm.

Term 4 Events

Week 7 B

Sunday 22 November Ravenswood Summer Carnival

Week 8 A

Monday 23 November Year 4 excursion to Long Reef
Wednesday 25 November Years 1-6 2016 Orientation 9.00-10.45am
Year 6 Surf Education Excursion
Friday 27 November  Year 6 Graduation 5.30pm-9.30pm
End-of-term and Sport Assembly 2.00pm Auditorium

Sunday 29 November  Combined Carol Service - Junior, Middle and Senior Vocal Ensembles and Ravo Voices will be performing, 7.00pm Gordon Uniting Church

**Week 9 B**

Tuesday 1 December  Junior School Presentation Day 9.00am-11.00am Joan Goff Gymnasium - blazers are to be worn and parents are welcome
Term 4 Ends Junior School

Tuesday 2 December  Secondary School Presentation Morning 10.00am-1.00pm Sydney Town Hall - Junior School members of the Symphony Orchestra are required to attend (details to follow)

*Mrs Cheryl Bailey, Head of Junior School*

**RPA Junior School Year Group News**

**Year 1 Casual Coffee and Catchup: Thursday 26 November from 8.30am**
After drop-off on Thursday morning, Year 1 parents are invited to gather at Runaway Spoon, Tryon Road, Lindfield, for coffee.

**Year 3 End-of-Year Gathering for Parents: Friday 27 November from 7.30pm**
Coming soon: Year 3 parents’ get-together at the home of Megan Tranter, East Lindfield, to celebrate the end of another fabulous year at Ravenswood. Full details are available on the Parent Portal.

**Secondary School**

**Secondary School Choral Festival**

The annual *Choral Festival* will be held on **Tuesday 24 November** at The Concourse, Chatswood.

It is an enjoyable evening in the school’s Performing Arts calendar and one not to be missed by parents. The concert will commence at 7.00pm and conclude at approximately 10.00pm. This is a compulsory Secondary School event; all girls in Years 7-11 will be performing in a House Choir and therefore parents are encouraged to attend to see their daughters perform.

In preparation for the event, rehearsals will also be held at The Concourse on Tuesday 24 November.


**Secondary School Speech Day**

The Secondary School Speech Day ceremony will be held at Sydney Town Hall on **Wednesday 2 December**, commencing at 10.00am and concluding by approximately 12.30pm.

A significant occasion in the school calendar, the Speech Day ceremony is a compulsory event for all girls in Years 7-12 and I hope each student will be accompanied by her parents. The celebration of the achievements of the girls in the Secondary School is something that is valued by the school community. We frequently acknowledge the girls’ achievements and contributions to the life of the school throughout the year at Year
Group Meetings and Assemblies, when we present awards for commitment and achievement in a number of academic, sporting and co-curricular programs. However, Speech Day is a special occasion because it is a function to which parents are invited and the girls' achievements are celebrated and acknowledged publicly.

I look forward to your attendance on the day.

**Vaccination Day – Years 7, 8 and 11 students**

Please note there has been a date change for the third vaccination visit from NSW Health. This visit will be for Year 7 students, Year 8 catch-ups and Year 11 catch-ups. The nurses will be at Ravenswood on **Wednesday 25 November**. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mrs Emma Jago at Student Reception on ejago@ravenswood.nsw.edu.au.

**Combined Carol Service**

The annual Ravenswood/Gordon Uniting and Sydney Covenant Uniting Church Carol Service will be held on **Sunday evening 29 November at 7.00pm** in the Chapel of Gordon Uniting Church. Families are invited to come and share in this special introduction to Christmas which features Ravenswood vocal ensembles. This year, the theme is *The Christmas Gift that keeps giving.*

**Coming Secondary School Events**

**Week 7**

Sunday 22 November Ravenswood Summer Carnival

**Week 8**

Tuesday 24 November Secondary School *Choral Festival*

Wednesday 25 November Year 7 Vaccinations

Friday 27 - Sunday 29 November Boarders’ Closed Weekend

Sunday 29 November Ravenswood and Gordon Uniting Church Carol Service

**Week 9**

Wednesday 2 December Secondary School Presentation Day Ceremony

Wednesday 2 December Boarders may travel home after ceremony

*Mr David Garner, Deputy Principal - Head of Secondary School*

**Maths Help**

**MATHS HELP 2015**

**WEEK A** Monday and Tuesday

**WEEK B** Wednesday and Thursday

3.30pm-4.30pm

LRC Foyer Level 2

Ms Blair (Mon Wk A), Ms Hazlehurst (Tues Wk A), Mrs Hurd (Wed Wk B) and Mrs Allan (Thurs Wk B) will be available for individual help with homework, preparation for testing or review of problem topics.

All Years 7-12 Mathematics students are welcome.

Please encourage your daughter to take advantage of this opportunity to consolidate her mathematical understanding in a relaxed and supportive environment.
English Support

The English Department is offering English Support in Semester 2 in the LRC from 3.30-4.30pm. This is available for all years 7-12 students.

Miss Bowers will be available Monday Weeks A & B
Mrs Sullivan will be available Wednesday Week A & Tuesday Week B
Mrs Paulsen will be offering EIL support Thursday Week A & Wednesday Week B

Performing Arts

Music

Information on: the K-2 Nativity Musical, 2016 Music Ensembles, the Secondary School Choral Festival and AMEB examination and Suzuki Graduation results.

K-2 Nativity Musical

Congratulations to all K-2 girls for their wonderful Nativity performance last week. We are extremely proud of them. The event was filmed. If you would like a copy, please collect a DVD from the Junior School with a $2 gold coin donation.

2016 Music Ensembles

Thank you to all girls who have auditioned for the 2016 Music ensembles. The Music team has not forgotten about you - we are just very busy with lots of end-of-term events. We will be posting the ensembles before the end-of-term and will also email the details.

Secondary School Choral Festival

A reminder that the annual Secondary School Choral Festival is next Tuesday 24 November at The Concourse, Chatswood. Girls should make their own way to The Concourse for an 8.30am start. Please go to https://myravo.ravenswood.nsw.edu.au/igloo/portal/showfile.php?file=638A39A6-D672-45B7-A5B0-9256710F64FC to view the letter containing the full information.
Mrs Heather Aird, Director Music and Performing Arts

Congratulations Alice in Wonderland, Jr Cast

Audiences were blown away by the cast of Alice in Wonderland, Jr. as they dazzled audiences with their talent in a matinee performance on Wednesday 18 November, followed by an evening performance on Thursday and another will take place tonight. Congratulations to all involved. We definitely have some potential actresses, dancers and singers in our mist.

Photographs from Alice in Wonderland, Jr. are available to view and order online. Please go to http://gallery.skippingstone.com.au/?t=school, and enter the password: ravenswood.

Miss Ebony Keys, Director
Sports

IGSSA Water Polo

Rav 1 competed in a fifth versus sixth playoff against Danebank, winning convincingly 10-4. Well done to the whole team for strong offensive play and accurate goal scoring.

Rav 2 competed in a semi-final against St Catherine’s. The girls had a tough game, losing by only one point, so close. Bad luck girls, it was a very exciting game.

Photo: Rav 3 and Rav 4

Rav 3 competed in a semi-final against St Vincent’s. The girls began strongly, leading 4-3 at half-time. After some tough defence from the opposition and some unlucky shots in extra time, St Vincent’s managed to win. Congratulations on an intense, nail-biting game.

Rav 4 competed in a fifth versus sixth playoff against Queenwood. Excellent defence and strong outside shooting guaranteed a win, 13-7. Well done to all team members who demonstrated sportsmanship and tight teamwork.

Rav 5 competed in a semi-final against St Catherine’s. The team worked hard throughout the game, however, unfortunately lost. Great work girls, they worked hard all term.

Throughout the season, all teams improved drastically which is a credit to the girls’ determination and attendance at training. Well done to all girls on a great 2015 IGSSA Water Polo season. I am already looking forward to next year.

Ms Joanna Rich

Community

From the Development Office

Some handy tips for Summer Carnival attendance this Sunday – please note that Henry Street will be closed (as it will be full of rides) and that parking is in the commuter carparks. There will be opportunities to pay by EFTPOS onsite and limited cash-out facilities. There is an incredible number of people who have been working day and night (literally, through the night) to make this a day of fun. Even if you haven’t volunteered, please come along for an hour or two, buy a book, listen to some music, view some art, have some food and enjoy everything that makes this community so special.
RPA and Foundation Tuition Raffle

For your chance to win free tuition for one student for 2016, click on http://www.trybooking.com/JGFQ. There are 500 tickets available; the ticket price is $250 plus the TryBooking fee. For more information and the Terms and Conditions, see the Parent Portal.

Women Empowering Women Event in conjunction with Knox Grammar School

Returning to the Paid Workforce

Women of Ravenswood are invited to hear Louise Langridge, MD of Morgan McKinley Global Recruitment Consultancy, and Rachel Worden, Founder and MD of Ruby Slippers Personal Styling and Makeover Services, speak about returning to the paid workforce.

When: Friday 27 November 9.30am-10.30am
Where: Thistle Room (Building KGI), Knox Grammar School, Warrawee.

Full details are available on the Parent Portal.

Second-hand Textbooks

The RPA has registered Ravenswood on the Sustainable School Shop website, which operates in a similar way to sites like Gumtree or eBay. You can list either ‘Wanted’ or ‘For Sale’ ads, and part of the negotiation is how the seller gets the books to the buyer. Ravenswood booklists are loaded into the system, so you can see exactly which books you need, and the site guides you to the cheapest items: www.sustainableschoolshop.com.au. For more information, see the flyer on the Parent Portal.

Lost Property

See the Parent Portal for the list of lost property. Lost Property is open at the rear of Hutchens House (the Uniform Centre) on Tuesday or Thursday between 1.10pm-1.40pm, or make an appointment with Anne Reilly in the Development Office: 9498 9825.

Ravenswood Remembrance Camellia: still available

It’s not too late to secure one of these limited-edition camellias. Proceeds from the sale will help fund the landscaping of the War Memorial. RRP: $100. Enquiries to the Development Office: 9498 9825.

Ms Liane Leslie, Development and Relationships Manager

RPA Summer Carnival - Sunday 22 November

The Summer Carnival has its own website - www.ravocarnival.com.au. Check it out for what’s on, map of the site, Battle of the Bands details, market stalls and Art Market information.

Buy your unlimited rides wristbands on TryBooking and save$$$!

For $26 + a TryBooking fee, you can buy an unlimited rides wristband for this Sunday's Carnival. On the day, the same wristband will cost $35, and individual rides are priced between $5-$8. To secure your wristband, follow this link: http://www.trybooking.com/JKIf.
Laser Tag!

Get your team together for Laser Tag fun at the Carnival. Pay on the day ($5 per player per session) but plan your day by booking your sessions now at http://www.laserwarriors.com.au/Events_Ravo.html, limit of 20 players per session. Be there at least ten minutes before your time.

NOTE: Laser Tag is not a ride. It is not covered by the unlimited rides wristband.

Carnival Run Sheet available on the Parent Portal

For the Battle of the Bands programme and the times for the Robotics and STEM showcase and the announcement of the Beautiful Creatures Photography competition, see the Carnival section of the Parent Portal.

Call for Volunteers

The Year Group stalls are mostly full, so please look for other opportunities to volunteer your time for the Carnival and work alongside other members of the Ravenswood community, e.g. the Drinks, Waffle, BBQ and Pizza stalls. We also need general helpers on the day, and extra pairs of hands for set-up on Saturday 21 November. If you don’t wish to miss your child’s performance, why not put your name down for pack-up on Sunday afternoon. Click on the following link and follow the prompts: http://vols.pt/2YWB42.

Student Volunteers (Years 5-12)

Do two hours of volunteering and you are entitled to a Fast Pass: get to the head of the queue on some Carnival rides. Choose stalls where you can work with your friends, e.g. selling tickets for the Drinks stall. Click on the link and follow the prompts: http://vols.pt/2YWB42.

ROGU Homebake Stall

Drop off your entries for the Ravenswood Old Girls’ Union (ROGU) cakebox decorating competition between 10.00am-4.00pm this Saturday, as well as your baked goods for the ROGU Homebake Stall. For more information, contact Jenny Wells jjwells_1964@hotmail.com. Full details of the competition are available on the Parent Portal.

Papaya Homewares Gift Voucher

Papaya Homewares, a gold sponsor of our upcoming Summer Carnival, has an offer for all members of the Ravenswood community. Simply take a printout of the following wording to Papaya to redeem the offer:
Silent Film Festival

On Saturday 5 December at 3 pm the Silent Film Festival presents three sparkling Charlie Chaplin comedies with live music, at Roseville Uniting Church, 7A Lord Street, Roseville.

John Batts will accompany the treats.

*Charlie Chaplin - Genius at the Mutual Studio 1916: The Floorwalker, The Fireman and The Vagabond*

Ravenswood History and Languages Tour 2017

ITALY, GERMANY, BELGIUM AND FRANCE – 8-24 APRIL 2017
Open to students of History, French, German and Latin, currently in Years 8-10

$8250* per student, based on 20 paying students and 3 staff escorts
*Costs are subject to currency fluctuations, airline increases and seasonality changes for 2017.

Tour cost includes:

- Return economy airfare Sydney/Rome/Paris/Sydney
- Economy airfare Naples–Berlin, Berlin–Brussels
- All taxes and fuel surcharges for flights
- All accommodation in 2, 3 and 4 star hotels throughout and all meals
- All land travel by private coach or public transport
- Entrance fees to all sites listed on the itinerary
- All tipping
- Local guides at all major sites
- One-hour lecture with Dr Estelle Lazer (about Pompeii and Herculaneum)
- Tour manager for the entire trip
- Guided walking tour of Roman Forum and of Rome’s landmarks
- Vatican Museum guided tour, entrance to the Cupola and visit to the Basilica
- Visit to Mount Vesuvius
- Guided tours of Pompeii and Herculaneum
- Guided tour of Berlin, Reichstag, Brandenburg Gate, Checkpoint Charlie, Eastside Gallery, Soviet Memorial, self-guided tour of DDR Museum
- Orientation tour of Ypres
- Passchendaele Memorial Museum, Wreath Laying Ceremony at Menin Gate, transfer to the Somme Valley and WWI battlefields with a guide, guided tour of Villers Bretonneux
- Guided tour of Paris, including the Eiffel Tower, Arc de Triomphe, dinner on the Champs Elysees
- Visits to the Louvre, Palace of Versailles, Hotel Carnevalet or sister school Le Lycée Carcado Saisseval, Montmartre and Sacre Coeur, Bateau Mouches cruise along the Seine.
- Comprehensive travel insurance with Suresave

Information Evening to be held early February 2016.
San Carols by Candlelight

SUNDAY 13 DECEMBER 2015

FRONT LAWN
Sydney Adventist Hospital
185 Fox Valley Road, Wahroonga

FROM 4PM
- Kids and Family Activities
- Food Fair

7PM
- Dorothy the Dinosaur and friends
- Christmas Show

8PM
- Main Carols Program
  - Ending with the Hallelujah Chorus and a Spectacular Fireworks® Display

PLUS
- Dave Martin and the Carols Band
- Wahroonga Adventist Primary School Choir
- Warringah Primary School Band

KIDS CONCERT
- Dorothy the Dinosaur and friends Christmas Show

For more information visit www.sah.org.au

A FREE COMMUNITY EVENT PROVIDED BY SYDNEY ADVENTIST HOSPITAL
News

Closure of Ministry Service

On Tuesday, a special Service took place for Principal Ms Vicki Steer’s Closure of Ministry. The whole school was in attendance and the Service was led by Rev Jon Humphries. Rev Dr Andrew Williams, General Secretary of the NSW and ACT Synod of the Uniting Church, led the Prayer of Praise and Thanksgiving.

As part of the moving ceremony, Ms Steer was released from the role of the Principal by Mr John Oldmeadow, Director of Schools Ministry, NSW and ACT Synod of the Uniting Church. Ms Steer presented a copy of Nuntius (the yearbook) to Mr Mark Webb, Chair of School Council. In return Ms Steer was presented with a gift from the school by Jessica (Yr 11), School Captain, and Phoebe (Yr 3), the Junior School representative. Everyone present at the Service had made a contribution to the gift, a memory book of Ms Steer’s eleven years as Ravenswood’s Principal.

The wonderful Farewell Symphonic Poem was performed by Ravo Voices and the Symphony Orchestra. The piece is composed by Ravenswood’s very talented Mr Michael Varecka, K-12 Music Coordinator.

4 The Future

Career women of the new millennium need more than university degrees. Ravenswood’s own future career women of Year 10 were treated to indoor and outdoor sessions this week, learning useful vocational and life skills.
from various experts. Cadets led sessions on survival skills, teachers taught essential skills in the kitchen as well as in coding, while personal presentation was covered through make-up and manicure sessions. Creative skills for downtime were not forgotten – there were sessions on photography, movie making, knitting and crochet. The students enjoyed the break from their usual routine.