Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome back to Risdon Park PS for the last term of 2014. Hasn't the year gone quickly! I have spoken to a few Year 7’s over the past few days and they all have mixed feelings about their last term at Risdon. They are all excited about moving into Secondary School, but also a little sad about leaving the school that they have attended for 8 years.

Term 4 is always a busy term. Firstly it is a shorter term with only 9 weeks, to have processes, procedures and programs in place to start the next year. Secondly we need to spend time to acknowledge our year 7 students’ achievements and farewell them in the best way that we can. Thirdly there is still a lot of learning minutes left for teachers and students to maximise their time at school, so that they can be successful with their efforts and year’s achievements.

At this time we ask that parents inform us if their child/ren will not be attending in 2015, so that we can begin our class placement exercise with as accurate student numbers as possible. Parents have the opportunity to submit their personal preference in writing for their child’s class placement for 2015 on educational grounds. Risdon Park PS class placement exercise is a comprehensive process, with a range of information and data taken into account to create the class groups which are able to learn and get along with each other.

There are a number of significant events taking place this term and include:

- Adelaide University Compass Team working with our year 5 to 7 students in two different science programs titled, 10 Big Questions in Science and Stemball.
- Maths consultant, Roslyn Shepherd, working alongside teachers in classroom on their mathematics programs
- Port Pirie Interschool Sports Day
- Monday 3rd November – Pupil Free Day
- Years 4 - 7 Cricket Clinic
- Whole School Transition -Transition from Kindy to school and from Year 7 to secondary school
- End of year Reports to go home
- Year 7 Graduation

Please refer to dates of events on the enclosed term planner.

I look forward to the term ahead, knowing that it will bring many challenging and enjoyable moments.

Regards,
Carolyn Clinton
National Anti-Poverty Week

This week is National Anti-Poverty Week. Our last pupil free day in Term 3 we focussed on the effects of poverty on schooling, learning, student and family wellbeing. The following information covers data collected about people in Australia living in poverty. So did you know…?

Statistics on income distribution reflect the inequality present in Australia: the top 20% of income earners receive 50% of total income in Australia, while the bottom 20% earn 5%.

The Australian Council of Social Services (ACOSS) estimates that there are over two million Australians who do not have an acceptable standard of living and go without the bare necessities: housing, work, education, health care and community services.

In 2009, 15% of children aged 0-15 years in Australia lived in a jobless household. 67% of these children lived in a one parent household.

In 2005-06 approximately one in five lower income households spent more than 30% of their income on housing, with 4.9% spending more than 50%.

Most single parents are middle-aged separated mothers, not single teenagers. Less than 3% of single parents are teenagers. Most are 30 to 50 years old and were previously married.

ACOSS noted in 2008, ‘Most sole parent families live on low incomes - over 70% are in the bottom 40% of Australian households ranked by income. Around two thirds of sole parent families rent their homes and it is now common for rent for three bedroom properties in capital cities to exceed half this income ($275 pw).

Each year, two million Australians will rely on food relief and around half of them will be children. These children often go to school without breakfast or to bed without dinner.

Studies have consistently demonstrated people who are socially isolated or disconnected from others have between two and five times the risk of dying from all causes compared to those who maintain strong ties with family, friends and community.

12% of children living in Australia are growing up in poverty.

Thank you to Aileen Wohling for sharing her knowledge and expertise on People Living in Poverty and its impact on Education at our last Pupil Free Day.

Some Important Reminders for Term 4.

Risdon Park’s morning bell rings at 8:55am. Junior Primary doors open at 8:45am. Teachers are on yard duty from 8:30am. If your child is dropped off to school earlier than 8:30am they need to stay on the grassed area at the front of the school, close to our new “sitting tree”. We need to be informed of your child’s absences and that can be done in a number of ways, including, through the Skoolbag app, leaving a text on 0409097059, a phone call to the front office, and / or a note in your child’s diary or communication book.

We still have a number of NAPLAN parent reports to be collected from the front office or you need to give permission for your child to bring them home.

We take a great deal of pride in students wearing school uniform to school. As the warmer weather comes in, I would like to remind students and parents that short shorts are not appropriate school attire.
Canteen Roster

Week 2
Monday 20th October
D Staehr
Tuesday 21st October
L Pomery
Wednesday 22nd October
H Davidson
Thursday 23rd October
M Brown
Friday 24th October
R Giles, G Baggott

Week 3
Monday 27th October
S Jebb
Tuesday 28th October
H Davidson
Wednesday 29th October
L Pomery
Thursday 30th October
K Gray
Friday 31st October
M Dienhoff, J Baldwin

Canteen Special
Friday Only

Ham & Cheese Burger
+ Fruit Box

Full serve $5.50
1/2 serve $4.50

Slushies are now available for the warmer weather

No chicken wedges or meatballs available Friday

NYP Little Athletics

2014/2015 Season begins
Friday 17th October 2014
5:30pm @ Kadina Memorial School Oval
Online Registration Only
At www.salaa.org.au
No paper registrations accepted
*Eligible Tiny Tots to be born before 1st October 2011

BBQ & canteen open each meet
For more info Contact
Michael - 0448049417 or
Denise - 0409591134
Facebook - NYP Little Athletics
Email - nyp.littleathletics@gmail.com