Dear Parent and Caregivers,

Well the end of term 4 and end of 2014 school year is here! The year has been a busy and exciting one with lots of special events and programs that students, staff and families have been involved in. Some of the highlights have included:

Term 4

- Risdon Got Talent auditions, semi-final and finals
- End of term celebrations, with pool days and class parties
- Year 7 Graduation
- Adelaide University - “10 Big Questions” and Stem Ball programs
- Kindy to Primary to Secondary School transition
- Zoo excursion for reception students
- Premier’s Reading Challenge celebration and recognition
- Interschool Sports Day
- Volunteers morning tea
- Kid’s Co Dress up Day and Disco

Term 3

Sports Day
- Lab on Legs – CSIRO Science program
- Choir performance
- Author’s Visit
- Commonwealth Games activities
- Book Week Celebrations
- The Amazing Literacy and Numeracy race
- Years 5/6 and years 6/7 camp to Asbury Park
- Senator Penny Wright’s visit

What’s in this Newsletter
- From the Principal
- Introducing
  - 2015 School Captains
  - 2015 House Captains
- Schutzenfest Winners
- Academic Achievement Winners
- Yr 7 Graduation

DATES TO REMEMBER

Week 9
Friday 12th December
Last Day of Term
Early Dismissal 2.15pm

2015
Week 1
Tuesday 27th January
First day of school

Week 2
Monday 2nd February
First day of swimming lessons

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Helping each other to succeed
Term 2

- National Literacy and Numeracy Testing - NAPLAN
- Walk to School Day
- A visit from the Minister for Education and Child Development, Jennifer Rankine and Geoff Brock, representative for Frome
- “Hero Day” - Kid’s Co Fundraiser,
- Book launch of “the Adventures of Puddles the Pug Around Port Pirie”, students in rooms 23 and 36
- World Cup Soccer @ Risdon

Term 1

- Acquaintance Night
- Whole School Swimming program
- Parent Teacher Interviews
- SAPSASA Carnival
- Harmony Day celebrations
- Involvement in Nyrstar Swimming Carnival

There have also been many programs that have run all year long and include:

- Breakfast Club, returned to Wednesday, then extended to Thursday and Friday
- Garden program
- A number of excursions and performances
- Lunchtime activities such as Lego Club
- Various SAPSASA sporting events for year 6 and 7 students
- Pirie and Surrounds choir - weekly practice and combined choir days
- A variety of Literacy Intervention programs, which have brought to the fore, significant student improvement in reading
- Staff learning focussed on Numeracy and Mathematics and Assessment through their involvement in whole of Pirie wide Professional Learning Communities, referred to as PLC’s
Risdon Park Primary School would like to announce our School Captains and House Captains for 2015. We look forward to working with our future leaders.

**Captains**

- **Risdon House Captains**
  - Shalia Brusnahan
  - Rory Hill
  - Tahlia Mackintosh
  - Bailey Jebb

- **Woodward House Captains**
  - Zali Adams
  - Callan Staker
  - Hannah Pollard
  - Grayson Roseberg

- **Leonard House Captains**
  - Mary-Elise Fuss
  - Cody Ewers
  - Mieke Hargreaves
  - Akira Scarman

- **Kingston House Captains**
  - Jordan Sawyer
  - Mason Foster
  - Casey Broadfoot
  - Link Simpson

**Vice Captains**

- **Risdon House Captains**
  - Shalia Brusnahan
  - Rory Hill
  - Tahlia Mackintosh
  - Bailey Jebb

- **Woodward House Captains**
  - Zali Adams
  - Callan Staker
  - Hannah Pollard
  - Grayson Roseberg

- **Leonard House Captains**
  - Mary-Elise Fuss
  - Cody Ewers
  - Mieke Hargreaves
  - Akira Scarman

- **Kingston House Captains**
  - Jordan Sawyer
  - Mason Foster
  - Casey Broadfoot
  - Link Simpson
What a wonderful year!
I would like to thank all staff for their commitment to the students and families of Risdon Park PS. I would particularly like to thank those staff members leaving us at the end of term. Every single staff member has worked exceptionally hard to support the students of Risdon Park PS be the best that they can be. I would therefore like to thank:

  **Krichelle Oaklands** (from room 13 and for teaching year 1 and 2 students)
  **Annette Burgan** (for working on Tuesday’s in Rebecca Oakland’s reception class and on Friday’s in Pat Greig’s reception class)

A special thank you and acknowledgement needs to be extended to **Jayne Moten**, one of our year 2/3 teachers for 2014, although she has taught in different classes and year levels in her 9 years at Risdon Park PS. Jayne is taking extended leave in preparation for retirement. Jayne will be missed by her colleagues and past students and their families, as she has made a tremendous contribution to student learning at Risdon. Good luck Jayne and enjoy smelling those roses!

I would also like to thank 4 new school service officers, who have joined our support team and worked exceptionally hard. They have earned the respect of their peers, teachers and students that they work with. Thank you to Anita Bellifemini, Megan Voumard, Rachel Stringer and Rose-lee Pisani. I am hoping that we will see them back working at Risdon Park in 2015.

A thank you morning tea was held last Wednesday morning to acknowledge all the great work that our volunteers do around our school, from helping in the canteen, resource centre and reading room, to taking groups in play boxes, and assisting class teachers in reading programs. Thank you so very much for all your time and significant contribution to Risdon Park PS.

Accompanying this newsletter you will receive home your child’s report card and class placement for 2015. Your child will have the opportunity to visit their 2015 classroom and in most instances meet their new teacher on Friday morning for a short time.

In the first newsletter for 2015, I will provide you with the names of teachers and their classes for 2015. I look forward to the Risdon Park PS Acquaintance night which traditionally takes place on Tuesday after school in week 3. Term 1, 2015, begins on Tuesday January 27th.

Until then, I wish all students, their families and staff a very happy Christmas and a fun loving holiday break.

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During Term 4 students in Units 2 and 3 have been hard at work learning about the German state of Bavaria. They have studied significant landmarks and folk stories, and made posters to display their knowledge.

Every class voted to select the best posters created by their classmates, and from this pool the finalists whose posters would be sent to the Schützenfest in Adelaide were selected. Congratulations to all students who were selected by their classmates.

The posters being sent to Adelaide for the Schützenfest Poster Competition are displayed on this page. Good luck in the competition!

On Monday the 8th of December the graduating class of 2014 gathered to celebrate their year’s achievements. After the students ate their meals the formal portion of the night began.

Speeches were given by Carolyn Clinton, Kelly Smith from Governing Council and the school captains. There were videos that showcased highlights of the year and the development of the students, certificates were then handed out individually.

After the formalities of the evening concluded, students danced the night away at the disco.

Thank you to all the families and staff who attended the event and made the night special for the year 7’s.

Best of luck to the graduating class of 2014.

Emily Langton