



PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

HIGH SCHOOL ORIENTATION - TUESDAY, 26TH NOVEMBER

The first full day orientation day for students in Year 6 who are attending Kadina, Lismore or Richmond River High Schools next year is on Tuesday, 26th November.

Information from the High Schools should have already been received. Students must attend the orientation day for the high school in which they have enrolled.

If you have not enrolled your child into a high school ready for Year 7 in 2025, please do so as soon as possible. Please see more information attached about the orientation day.

KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION

The second week of our 2025 Kindergarten orientation program runs Tuesday and Thursday from 9:30am – 1.00pm in the Kindergarten classrooms. The program runs for 4 weeks. If you know of any pre-schoolers who will be starting school in 2025, please inform their families of our program and ask them to contact the school on 6624 1444 for details.

K-6 ASSEMBLY

We will be having a K-6 Assembly on Monday 11th November from 9.20am in the school hall. Students will receive their Silver and Gold Awards. There will be one more opportunity to collect these awards this term, so I encourage students to hand in their bronze, and silver awards quickly.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

This term, our school will be focusing on Student Attendance. Being at school is extremely important for the continuation of learning.

Students who miss days throughout the week miss lessons and vital instructions that are critical to the flow of learning – this often affects a student's confidence and has an impact on learning key concepts.

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance e.g. attending a funeral.

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options.

NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people.

When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier, and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

SMS - ABSENCES

Going to school every day is important and Kindergarten sets children up for the rest of their schooling. What your

We would like to respectfully acknowledge the Elders past and present of the Wijabal Wiyabal people and other peoples of Bundjalung Nation.

We acknowledge that they are the first peoples of this land on which our school stands.

child learns each day builds on what they learned the day before.

- If your child misses' school, their learning routine is broken, so they can lose confidence and miss out on building their friendships.
- If your child misses' school due to illness, religious reasons, or family circumstances, you are required to explain the reason for their absence to the school.
- If your child arrives at school late or needs to leave early, you will need to communicate with the office to sign your child in or out and provide a reason for the absence.
- If you're having difficulty getting your child to school every day and on time, talk to your teacher or principal.
- If your child is absent for a whole day or part of a day, without a reason, you will receive an SMS from us asking you to reply to the school to explain the reason for the absence. You can reply to the SMS or simply call the school to explain the absence.

It is a Department of Education requirement that a reason be provided for all absences.

Learn more about your role and strategies you can use to support your child's attendance at school. Follow <https://education.nsw.gov.au/studentwellbeing/attendance-matters-resourcesforschools/your-role-in-supportingattendance> to learn more.



STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL 2025

Year 5 students will soon receive information about how to nominate for the 2025 Student Representative Council/School Captains.

They will have 2 to 3 weeks to campaign. The students will give a speech at the K-5 Assembly on Tuesday, 3rd December at 9.20am.

Voting will happen straight after the speeches and the announcement of the SRC will be at the Whole School Presentation Assembly on Monday, 9th December.

If you have any questions or your child would like to nominate for SRC 2025, please see Mrs Yates.

BUSHFIRE SEASON - PLAN AND PREPARE

The NSW Rural Fire Service has resources for all residents to plan and prepare for the bush fire season. It is important that you consider the safety of our own home from bush fire.

Please find more information and resources on the RFS website at <http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/plan-and-prepare>

SAVE THE DATES END OF YEAR CELEBRATION DAYS

All stages will be having their end of year celebration days in Week 10 this term, Friday 13th December. Each Stage will be planning their activities and permission notes will be sent via School Bytes to families next week.

SPORT with Mr H

TERM 4 ELECTIVE SPORTS

Our Term 4 Sports Electives are up and running. The feedback from the students and staff has been very positive. Students from Years 3-6 are involved in Karate, Tennis, Skating, Basketball and Futsal outside of school on Friday afternoons. Students who are at school complete fitness, dance and card games/board games.



SPORTING PHOTOS

With Winter sports finishing up and summer sports about to begin, I would like to highlight the students in our school who play different sports after school or on the weekends. It could be a photo from recent presentation days! Every week in the newsletter, I would like to put in some photos of students in their sporting uniform with a short blurb about the sport/club they play for. You can send these through to me at jason.holmes13@det.nsw.edu.au

HOT SHOTS TENNIS PROGRAM

Our school recently received a grant from the Australian Tennis Foundation to run a tennis program called 'Hot Shots' over 5 weeks for our Year 3-6 classes. Tennis Hot Shots is designed for all students of age and ability. It is played on smaller courts with modified equipment so it is easier for students to play. Two qualified coaches (Dean & Trent) deliver the lessons to the students. Lessons are on each Monday and run for 30 minutes per class.



GPS SWIMMING CARNIVAL

This term, we will finish a very busy sporting year with our Swimming Carnival at the Lismore Memorial Baths on **Thursday 5th December**. The main aim of this day will be **FUN**. We want our students to dress up in their house colours and go in races/events they feel comfortable doing. **This event will cater for all swimming abilities so we are expecting to see all 8-12 year olds there on the day.** As well as competitive swimming events, there will be fun races with noodles/kick boards for students who are not confident swimmers in the smaller 25 metre pool. The students held water safety/swimming lessons earlier this year at the same pool and should feel comfortable returning there.

The results from this carnival will also help us to make our 2025 Swimming Team for the Zone Carnival which is held early in Term 1, 2025.

For our Year 6 students, this carnival will be their last carnival in Primary School. With the warmer weather upon us, it's a great chance to get your kids back into the water and swimming again. Information will be sent via **School Bytes** shortly where your child will nominate which competitive races they would like to take part in, information about the day and the cost.



SPORTSMANSHIP

At school, we encourage all students to show great sportsmanship both in class and on the playground. I would encourage all parents/carers to discuss what good sportsmanship looks like and sounds like. Our staff has been giving students lots of reminders recently about this. Sometimes students (and adults) forget that it is 'JUST A GAME'. Whether it be handball, skipping, basketball, soccer, touch football or any other activity it shouldn't matter. Sadly, in the news lately, we have seen examples of poor sportsmanship by spectators (adults) and players at different sports. It's embarrassing behaviour that shouldn't be tolerated, at any level of sport.



SAVE THE DATES

Student Representative Council 2025 Speeches
Tuesday, 3rd December

Whole School Presentation Assembly
Monday, 9th December



Year 6 Farewell - More information to follow
Wednesday, 11th December



Celebration Day K-6 - More information to follow for each Stage
Friday, 13th December

Last day of school
Wednesday, 18th December





THE RIVERS SECONDARY COLLEGE

The heart of secondary education for Lismore

2024 Year 6 Orientation Days

Save these dates in Term 4:

Day 1 - Tuesday 26th November

Day 2 - Tuesday 3rd December



KADINA HIGH CAMPUS

2-22 Kadina Street, Goonellabah

Phone: 6624 3133

Year 7 Adviser 2025: Polly Jude

RICHMOND RIVER HIGH CAMPUS

1 Military Road, East Lismore

Phone: 6621 3456

Year 7 Adviser 2025: David Dunlop

LISMORE HIGH CAMPUS

118 Dalley Street, Lismore

Phone: 6621 5185

Year 7 Adviser 2025: Maria Eades



PURPOSE: To provide Year 6 students with the opportunity to experience high school at their local campus before they commence Year 7 in 2025.

DETAILS: The event is run as an excursion by our partner primary schools. A variety of activities will run during the day that may vary from campus to campus. Each Principal will provide activity details to the primary schools coming to their campus.



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