

RUTHERFORD PUBLIC SCHOOL

Newsletter



Volume 14 Term 3

Monday 23rd September 2024

<https://rutherford-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/>

Week 10 and Term 4 Week 1 Dates for your Diary

M 23.09.24	Year 2 School Swimming Scheme Year 4 Dennis Golding Excursion P&C Disco Rutherford Technology High School Year 6 Taster Sessions - League and Soccer Great Aussie Bush Camp Parent Information Session at 3:30pm in the Library	M 14.10.24	Term 4 Resumes for Students and Staff
T 24.09.24	HPGE Day for Selected Year 3 and 4 students at RTHS Rutherford Technology High School Year 6 Taster Sessions - League and Soccer	T 15.10.24	HPGE Day for Selected Year 3 and 4 students at RTHS
W 25.09.24		W 16.10.24	
Th 26.09.24	Eager Eagles 'Flying Start' Kindergarten Transition Program	Th 17.10.24	Eager Eagles 'Flying Start' Kindergarten Transition Program
F 27.09.24	Last day of Term 3	F 18.10.24	Year 5 Great Aussie Bush Camp Final Payment due

**KEEP UP TO DATE WITH ALL THE LATEST NEWS AND INFORMATION.
FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK AT: <https://www.facebook.com/RutherfordPS>**

IMPORTANT DATES

Term 3 concludes for all students on Friday 27th September 2024.

Term 3 resumes for all staff and students on Monday 15th October 2024 - NO STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY.

STAFF CHANGES IN TERM 4

Mr Brown (Principal) will be on leave from the end of October until the end of the year. **Mrs Zoe Dyall** will relieve as Principal for the remainder of the 2024 school year. Mrs Kate Slaven will relieve as Deputy Principal for the Infants (K-2) school. A "Contacting the School" guide is provided with this newsletter as a useful reference for families – especially when there is a need to contact the school over an issue, concern or something needing clarification. At all times, we seek to make things as easy and efficient for busy families.

CANBERRA EXCURSION AND PACER REBATE

By all reports, our students from Year 6 had an amazing time at Canberra in Week 8. Thank you to the staff and parents who accompanied the tour and to Macquarie Tours for all their extra care with our group. The accommodation managers made special mention of our student's behaviour over the three days. This is a very important and educational excursion that students will remember for the rest of their lives. Teachers do not get paid any overtime during the excursion and we thank them for going 'above and beyond' to care and support our students. Students were given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia's history, culture, heritage, and democracy.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government contributes funding to our school in the amount of \$30.00 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate (PACER) program towards those costs. The rebate is paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion.

MUSIC PROGRAMS

Music Soiree

Thank you to the parents and carers who came along to our Music Soiree! The short concert was an opportunity for students to showcase some of their progress and developing confidence. Thank you to Mrs Burgess, Mr Tarry and Mrs Groth for their support for our students.

K-2 Musical - Wednesday 30th October 2024

11am Matinee and 6:00pm Evening Performance

The K-2 Musical will be held on Wednesday 30th October 2024 with both matinee and evening performances. Ticket information will be sent home before the end of Term 3.

Our hall is small and we are trying to make the venue work as best we can to have as many seats available. This is our first concert in our new hall - so we ask parents to be patient as we work with the logistics of such a performance.

Tickets are paid for online through School Bytes and will be sent home with students next term. Please send in your costume items with names clearly marked in a labelled zip lock/plastic bag before the end of Term 3. All other items have been generously provided by our P&C Association.

A reminder that teachers are planning performances based on whole class participation for both sessions. If you are attending the matinee, your child will be supervised by staff for the evening performance.

Music Fees

Instrumental Music Program fees (Violin, Trumpet and Drum Corp) for Term 3 are overdue. Please finalise your account for this term as soon as possible. If you have any questions please contact Mrs Burgess through the school office.

KINDERGARTEN ART SHOW

Monday 23rd September (K/6T)

Wednesday 25th September (KA, KB, KD, KG, KH, KL, KT)

All families are welcome to join us in Kindergarten classrooms for our Art Show. Students have been learning about famous artists and making their own interpretations. Classrooms will be open from 2:30pm. You are welcome to visit all Kindergarten classes.

YEAR 2 SWIM SCHOOL

The Year 2 Swim School continues in Week 10. Participating students should bring a towel, swimmers (including a rashie/t-shirt), thongs and a separate plastic bag for wet items in a carry bag. Afternoon Tea will be eaten at the pool before departing back to school.

40TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS!

We are planning for Rutherford Public School and Rutherford Technology High School's 40th

Anniversary celebrations.

Our next meeting will be held in the RPS staffroom on Tuesday 22nd October 2024. Everyone is welcome to come and share their ideas and contribute towards the planning of this big day!

ABORIGINAL CONNECTION DAY

Our second Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Connection Day will be held on Friday 20th September 2024 (Week 9). Connection Day provides our Year 6 Aboriginal students with the opportunity to connect with students from Telarah Public School and Rutherford Technology High School as they transition into 2025. They will be accompanied by Mrs Lantry and walk to RTHS at 9:30am and return at 10:30am. All equipment needed will be supplied by the school with cultural knowledge being shared by all.

HIGH POTENTIAL AND GIFTED EDUCATION (HPGE) ACTIVITY DAYS

Selected students from Year 3 and Year 4 have had the opportunity to explore their learning potential through four (4) HPGE Activity Days at Rutherford Technology High School. Our first day was a success with students designing their dream classroom.

Students will continue their design tasks on the following days:

Tuesday 24th September 2024	9:30am - 12:30pm (Week 10 Term 3)
Tuesday 15th October 2024	9:30am - 12:30pm (Week 1 Term 4)
Tuesday 22nd October 2024	9:30am - 2:30pm - with a presentation on this day at 1:45pm (Week 2 Term 4)

Parents, carers, family, and friends are invited to attend the presentation. Students will be provided with lunch and have selected their preferences. Some students have opted to bring their own lunch, which can be accommodated. Further information has been provided to the families of selected students through School Bytes.

2026 SELECTIVE HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION – YEAR 7 ENTRY IN 2026

From 2025, the placement tests for selective high schools (e.g. Merewether High School) and opportunity classes (e.g. 5/6L) will move from single version paper-based tests to computer-based tests. There will also be changes to the application process for 2026 entry to selective high schools and opportunity classes.

These changes will result in:

- a more engaging experience for students with computer-based testing
- a longer application period for parents and carers to apply
- more choice for parents and carers of when their child will sit a placement test
- outcomes being released earlier to parents and carers.

Applications will be open each year from November to February (the following year) for both selective high school and opportunity class placement. Parents and carers will still apply online using the selective high school and opportunity class placement application website.

Applications for selective high school and opportunity class entry in 2026 will be open from 7th November 2024 to 21st February 2025. There will be no late applications due to the longer application period, and the application closing date being closer to the test dates and logistical constraints around organising test centres and devices.

This change to the application period means that parents and carers will now need to apply for

opportunity class placement when their child is in Year 3 (or by the end of Week 4 Term 1 when their child is in Year 4). This change applies to students currently in Year 3. For selective high school placement, parents and carers will continue to apply when their child is in Year 5 and can now apply when their child is in Year 6 until the end of Week 4 Term 1.

More information can be found at : [Changes to the application process for 2026 entry \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.nsw.gov.au/changes-to-the-application-process-for-2026-entry)

MOBILE PHONE POLICY: OFF AND AWAY

A reminder that our school has a strict mobile phone policy which restricts the use of mobile phones during school hours. We understand that some families provide their child with a device for personal safety before and after school.

Some general rules that apply are:

- Students are to secure their mobile phones and digital devices in their bag while at school.
- Students will not take photos or video with their personal digital devices while at school.
- The student must take full responsibility for these digital devices. The school or staff will not be responsible for their loss, theft or damage.
- Students must not use mobile phones or other digital devices to disrupt the learning environment or interfere with the operation of the school.

The following consequences may be used in relation to digital devices:

- Direction from staff to put the digital device away immediately if not being used appropriately (e.g. being used in the playground, not needed for the class lesson)
- Confiscation of the digital device. Students will be required to take their mobile phone to the office and place it in a secure location for the remainder of the school day. Repeat offenders will have their parents/carers notified and required to collect the phone from the office.
- In cases of severe breaches of procedure or continued disobedience, disciplinary action will be taken according to the Rutherford School Behaviour Support and Management Plan (e.g. loss of play, suspension).

Thank you for enforcing these guidelines with your child.

TERM 3 EXCURSION REMINDERS

Year 3 - Hunter Wetlands Education Centre

Payment is due by Thursday 31st October 2024 and students will attend on Tuesday 12th November or Wednesday 13th November 2024.

Year 5 - Great Aussie Bush Camp

Payment is to be finalised by Friday 18th October 2024 and students will be attending on Wednesday 30th October to Friday 1st November 2024.

P&C NEWS

Disco

The Term 3 disco will be held Monday 23rd September 2024. The disco is run by the P&C volunteers in the school hall with the support of staff and open for all students of Rutherford Public School.

Cost of entry is just \$2 (cash only please). All students MUST be accompanied to and from the

school hall by an adult.

Session times are:

K - 2 5:00pm - 6:00pm

Years 3 - 6 6:15pm - 7:30pm

A small canteen selling drinks, chips and sweets will operate on the night.

Parents are welcome to stay for the disco or drop off and collect children from the hall.

Hoys Movie FUNdraiser - Fantastic for XMAS presents or school holidays!

Rutherford Public School P&C are continuing the HOYTS Movie FUNdraiser - selling movie vouchers at discounted prices! Packs are to be purchased on the Flexischools app (same app used Rutherford Telarah Rotary Canteen) www.flexischools.com.au

Adult Pack	5 x Adult Movie Vouchers valid for any general admission session*	\$65
Child Pack	5 x Child Movie Vouchers valid for any general admission session*	\$55
Bargain Pack	5 x Movie Vouchers valid for any general admission session between Monday to Thursday only*	\$55

*Not valid on Public Holidays. Tickets can be used online and are valid for 3 years and 3 months.

See Terms & Conditions and Frequently Asked Questions here: <https://acrobat.adobe.com/link/review?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:6a909828-c003-3407-935f-fde66a49470f>

COMING SOON - CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Shh...1st prize is a \$1000 EFTPOS Gift Card!

CONTACT US:

School Phone: 4932 5900

School Website: <https://rutherford-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/>

School Email: rutherford-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

School Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/RutherfordPS>

Suggestions and Feedback: <https://forms.office.com/r/kSpAKaDZdN>

School Bytes Parent Portal: [Portal Link](#)

Rutherford/Telarah Rotary Canteen: griffin.jodie072@gmail.com