

RICHMOND HIGH SCHOOL



NEWSLETTER

WEEK 4 • TERM 2 • 2025

Providing quality education where all can reach their potential as a life-long learner.

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PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

Welcome back to Term 2! I hope you all had a wonderful weekend and a refreshing holiday break. Although we have only been back at school for a few weeks, I already have numerous students and staff to congratulate and acknowledge for their outstanding contributions.

During the holidays, Richmond High School proudly participated in three ANZAC Day events, where our students played an essential role in the proceedings. I would like to say thank you to Shaylee for saying the Prayer of Remembrance, Aiden for laying the wreath at the Richmond Sunday March, and Connor McNeill and Shaylee Jacobson for their participation at the Dawn service. Additionally, Amberley laid the wreath at the Richmond Club Service, while Savannah and Aiden delivered a poignant speech titled "What does Anzac Day mean to Young People today" at the Richmond Club Service. All students represented Richmond High School with pride and excellence. I would also like to acknowledge our other SRC members who attended various events: Andrew, Lucas, David, Bay-Lee, and Peter. Many thanks also go to Ms Garcia for her organisation of all of these events.

During Week 1, a group of our senior history students travelled to Canberra to visit the Australian War Memorial and the Pompeii exhibition. They received high praise from the bus company for their excellent and respectful conduct during the journey. I was also contacted by a citizen they met at McDonald's, who spoke highly of the group. Thank you to these students for representing Richmond High School so admirably. Positive interactions with our community are invaluable and do not go unnoticed. Thanks to our History staff who attended this excursion: Ms Garcia, Ms Smith and Ms Bow.

Last week Year 6 students visited us for Mini lessons, and many of our SRC members, including Lucas, David, Aiden, and Zaria, assisted in this important event. Thanks to all staff who delivered lessons and organised this event particularly Ms Pedersen and her Learning and Support Team.

I would also like to thank all students who participated in the Athletics Carnival last Friday. Your enthusiasm in trying out various events truly brings our school community together. A special thank you to the PDHPE staff for their organisation of this day.

Last Thursday, we had staff visiting from both Hawkesbury High and Katoomba High for an educational day called Instructional Rounds. This involved groups of three staff observing some of our classrooms for about 20 minutes. The feedback was extremely positive, and I was very proud to hear of the work the staff and students are doing this year in their teaching and learning.

The calendar for this term is already busy. There is a lot happening and much to celebrate!

We look forward to working with and supporting your children again this term.

**Kind regards,
Hayley**

DEPUTY MURKINS' UPDATE

Dear Parents, Carers, and Students,

Welcome back to Term 2! I hope everyone had a restful and enjoyable Easter Holiday Break. It's been wonderful to see the energy and enthusiasm of our students on their return to school this week! I would also like to congratulate the overwhelming majority of students for wearing their school uniform with pride, both in school and our community.

This term began with a reflective and respectful recognition of ANZAC Day. Across our classrooms and at the school assembly, students engaged in meaningful discussions about the significance of ANZAC Day, honouring the courage and sacrifice of Australian service men and women, with a particular focus on the contributions of Indigenous Australians. In uncertain times, these moments serve as powerful reminders of the values we hold dear—resilience, respect, mateship, and service.

I am looking forward to participating in the upcoming Year 7 Camp at the Collaroy Centre in Week 2. This is a fantastic opportunity for students to build friendships, develop teamwork skills, and grow in confidence. The camp is always a highlight for our Year 7 cohort, and we're excited to see what memories they'll create together.

A reminder that Semester 1 Reports will be distributed at the end of this term. These reports provide valuable feedback on your child's progress so far, highlighting achievements and identifying areas for further growth. Please take time to discuss this with your child to help motivate them, and reach out to teachers if needed.

Year 11 students will be completing their Mid-Course Assessments in Weeks 9 and 10. These assessments are an important checkpoint in their senior studies, helping them to consolidate learning and prepare for future academic demands. Students are encouraged to begin revision early and maintain open communication with their teachers regarding expectations and progress.

By this stage in the year, Year 11 students should have resolved, or be actively resolving, any N Award warnings. Where issues remain unresolved or academic application continues to be unsatisfactory, students and their parents/carers will be required to meet with me in the coming weeks to discuss next steps and support options. Student's must satisfy the course requirements for ALL of their subjects in order to progress to Year 12.

Thank you for your continued support. Wishing all students a productive and fulfilling Term 2!

Kind regards,
Peter Murkins

SCHOOL COMMUNICATION



To streamline communication and increase clarity, the decision has been made to shut down our RHS Enews App.

All communication including newsletters, excursions, permission notes and payments is now done via School Bytes.

This means less applications for parents and carers to manage, stronger security and easier access to important information.

Additionally, urgent or emergency communications can be sent with notifications to your phone via School Bytes, ensuring you never miss important updates.

Be sure to download School Bytes this term and take part in our streamlined communication efforts.

Required Applications



School Bytes

Permission notes, forms, payments & newsletters



Sentral Parents

Monitoring student attendance & viewing timetables



Facebook

Informal communication, reminders & celebrations



INCREASING CONSISTENCY

As part of Richmond High School's focus on Explicit Teaching practices, we have made progress in increasing consistent behaviour expectations across all classrooms.

Our new posters appear in every classroom, clearly outlining expected behaviour school-wide, and highlighting our positive student values.

While in Class

- 1 Respect all Others**
 - Value diverse opinions and treat classmates and teachers with kindness and fairness
 - Allow others to learn
- 2 Communicate Effectively**
 - Hand up to speak and ask for help
 - Indoor voices
 - Appropriate language
 - Allow others to share their thoughts
- 3 Be on task**
 - Follow all teacher instructions
 - Respect classroom procedures
- 4 Embrace Growth**
 - Do your best
 - Be open to feedback
 - Learn from my mistakes and keep trying
- 5 Learn with integrity**
 - Be responsible for my actions and behaviour
 - Be honest in my academic work
 - Keep our workspaces clean and tidy

Entry to Class



- 1 In line & on time**
 - We arrive to class on time
 - We line up in 2 lines outside the classroom door

- 2 Walk in ready**
 - Enter calmly and quietly with teacher permission
 - Sit in my allocated seat



- 3 Be ready, be set**
 - Unpack learning equipment
 - Listen to teacher instruction
 - Complete Do Now task

Leaving Class

- 1 Get ready**
 - Pick up all rubbish
 - Put away equipment
 - Pack my own belongings



- 2 Get set**
 - Put all furniture back in place
 - Chairs under desks
 - Stand and wait behind your chairs



- 3 Go!**
 - Wait for teacher to dismiss you
 - Leave row by row
 - Walk quietly and sensibly to your next class



ANZAC CEREMONY



Anzac Day is a national day of remembrance in Australia, New Zealand & Tonga that broadly commemorates all those who served & died in all wars, conflicts, & peacekeeping operations. Our final Term 1 assembly commemorated Anzac Day, with all RHS students & staff coming together to participate in the Australian Tradition. Organised by the Student Representative Council (SRC) and the sound crew, the event featured cadets in full uniform who laid a wreath, continuing a cherished tradition that adds a meaningful touch to the ceremony.

ANZAC CEREMONY



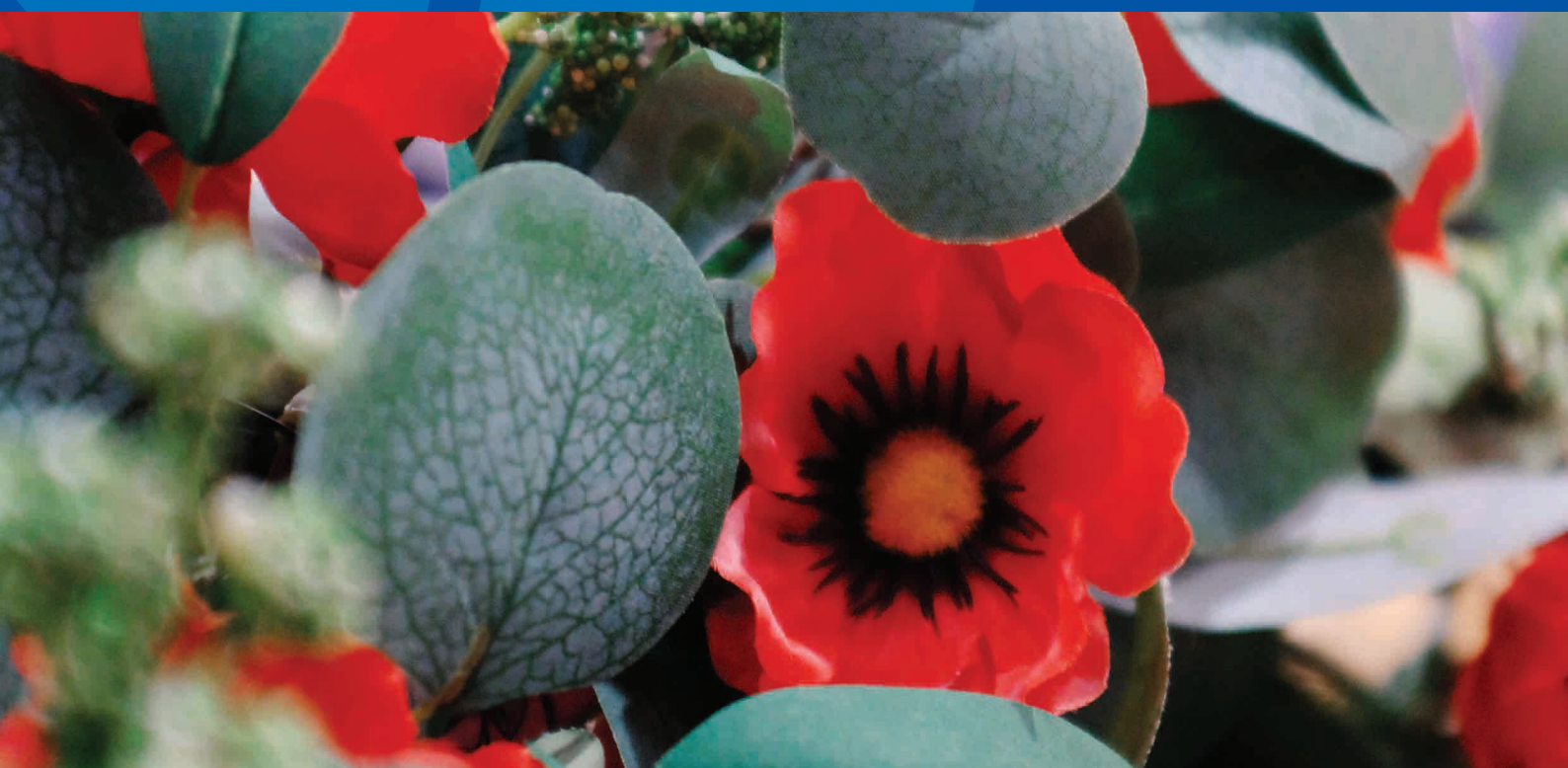
Outside school, many students attended and contributed to ANZAC Services within our community.

On April 3rd, students attended the RSL & Schools Remembrance Service at the ANZAC Memorial in Hyde Park, alongside over 100 schools in a student-led commemoration.

On April 13th, the SRC and Ms McDonald represented the school at the Richmond RSL Sub-Branch Commemorative Service, participating in the march and laying a wreath at the War Memorial.

On ANZAC Day (April 25th) the SRC joined multiple Hawkesbury region events, including the Dawn Service at Richmond Park, a breakfast hosted by the Richmond Club, and its commemorative service, where two students gave a speech. Richmond Agricultural College students also represented the school at Western Sydney University's service, taking part in the march and ceremony.

Richmond High School expresses its heartfelt gratitude to the students and families who dedicated their time to attend these important events. Your support in honouring this special day and participating in our community's remembrance efforts is genuinely appreciated.



2025 HAWKESBURY SHOW



Richmond High School has once again made its mark at the annual Hawkesbury Show, with our dedicated Ag Show Team delivering a phenomenal performance across a range of competitions. Under the expert guidance of our passionate Agriculture teacher, Mrs. Hoeflake, the team showcased the very best of rural talent, commitment, and teamwork. We would like to acknowledge the countless hours spent behind the scenes—feeding animals, grooming cattle, maintaining plots, and preparing display boards. The Hawkesbury Show isn't just a weekend event—it's the result of a year-long commitment to learning and growth.

Additionally we want to thank our partners, Mandalong Stud, and extend that thanks to MultiCube for their donation of Lucerne Hay Cubes.



2025 HAWKESBURY SHOW



Overall, the 2025 Hawkesbury Show proved very successful for Richmond High School. We saw multiple wins and places in the Poultry Shed, including Best of Breed for our Belgian d'Uccle. Stage 5 Agriculture class took care with selecting top quality produce for display, getting a win for their 'RHS Tomato Relish' and 'RHS 3-Fruit Marmalade'.

Matilda Elms (Year 7) made it to the top 5 in the Junior Cattle Judging Comp, a fantastic effort, meanwhile Zara Laurence (Year 9) placed first in her age group for Parading. Zara then led our beautiful 'Vladimir' to a 4th place in the Hook and Hoof Comp. Plenty to celebrate this year; well done to everyone.



YOUTHFEST



On the final afternoon of Term 1, 20 RHS students took to the stage at Richmond Oval for Youthfest. The event was a huge success, celebrating & encouraging talented young people in our community.

Our students performed a range of musical numbers, showcasing their hard-work and dedication to their music classes.

Plenty of friends & family came along to support the students, making up a large portion of the audience.

Well done to all those who performed & everyone who came to support them.



A message from Hart Youth, the event organisers:

HART Youth would love to say a big thank you to Richmond High School students Blake Anderson, Ashton Pogoriutchnig and Mitchell Baker, and teachers - Scott Turner and Jess Scopelliti, who assisted us at Youthfest 2025 on the the last day of Term 1. AND to the many incredible performers that came from Richmond High School. We are 100% certain the event for us would not have been as successful or as much fun without them.



YEAR 6 MINI LESSONS

Term 2 kicked off with our Year 6 Mini Lessons, which gives local primary students a hands-on high school experience.

Year 6 students from Hobartville, Londonderry, Castlereagh, Richmond and Bligh Park visited Richmond High this week, participating in a range of exciting classes.

Drama, Wood Tech, iSTEM and Agriculture were just some of the experiences on offer this term. Thankyou to all our local Year 6 students who came along and enjoyed this round of lessons.



JUNIOR RURAL AMBASSADOR

Congratulations to Aurelia Hough in Year 7 who attended the Young Women's Rural Ambassador Competition. We're proud to share that Aurelia is the Junior Ambassador runner-up, which is an amazing achievement. Aurelia took on numerous responsibilities in this years Hawkesbury Show as part of this prestigious title. Well done Aurelia on this outstanding achievement.



SUPERSWIM HERO



The Super Swim challenge is an all-ages fundraiser, which takes place across Australia. Challengers can choose a distance and fundraising goal, and can participate as an individual, or as part of a team to raise funds for a charity of choice. We're proud to recognise the outstanding efforts of our Year 7 student, Cristal Thukral. Cristal has successfully raised over \$750 for the Starlight Children's Foundation by completing a swim of more than 14 kilometers in the month of February. Well done to Crtistal!



Cristal Thukral

I'm swimming 14km in February to raise money for sick kids.

\$752

Raised so far

PITCH FOR PERFECT



The Pitch for Purpose Challenge, a new initiative by Rotary District 9685, saw 50 school teams tackle real-world environmental sustainability issues. Each team of 4–5 students developed skills in innovation, design, and presentation. Richmond High entered four teams, with two reaching the finals. In the lead-up, students worked with professionals and educators to refine their pitches. The finals took place on Saturday, March 22nd, at The Pullman in Penrith, where teams presented to a panel of judges. While none placed in the top three, they delivered strong ideas and impressive presentations. During Term 2 assembly, a Rotary guest speaker awarded certificates and praised the students' efforts. The school is proud of their teamwork and professionalism.

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL



Our first Friday of Term 2 marked our annual Athletics Carnival.

We would like to thank all RHS students for their outstanding participation, cooperation and effort throughout the day.

We would also like to thank Richmond High staff for their hard work on the day; specifically Mr Ryan, who went above and beyond in organising the entire event.

Congratulations to all students who successfully progressed to Zone level in their events.

**ATHLETICS
CARNIVAL
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