



SHERWOOD RIDGE PS NEWSLETTER

LEARNING • RESPECT • COMMUNITY

Term 2 – Week 4

Friday 23 May 2025

A Message from the Principal

Excitement is in the air at Sherwood Ridge as we eagerly anticipate the Colour Run in Week 6. With the added fun of students having the chance to *slime* a teacher—or even me!—our students are enthusiastically seeking sponsors. It promises to be a fantastic event, and we hope you can join us on the day.

This term, we are delighted to welcome Mrs Beatriz back from maternity leave. Mrs Beatriz brings valuable experience and expertise to our Learning and Support team, particularly in the areas of literacy and numeracy, to further support the needs of targeted students.

I would also like to officially farewell and thank Mrs Kathryn Pollastrini for her dedicated service to Sherwood Ridge Public School as the President of the P&C. Due to family commitments, Mrs Pollastrini has stepped down from her role. Throughout her time on the P&C executive, she has made a significant and lasting impact on our school community by fostering positive connections between staff and families. Her legacy of collaboration, respect, and community spirit will be remembered, and we extend our heartfelt thanks and best wishes to her and her family.

Our next P&C meeting will be held in the school library at 9:00 am on Friday, 6 June 2025. All parents and carers are warmly invited to attend—you do not need to be a financial member to participate. It's a great opportunity to connect with other parents and hear important updates directly from the school's senior executive team.

Finally, on behalf of all the staff, I would like to wish Mrs Hanna Ryu all the best as she begins her maternity. We are excited for her and look forward to meeting her new little arrival soon.

Warm regards

Mrs Jody Sullivan
Principal

School News

ANZAC DAY

At the end of last term, we acknowledged ANZAC Day with a commemorative assembly led by our student leaders. We were very lucky to have some important guests in attendance including Wing Commander Greg Porshe from the Royal Australian Air Force, Mr Foale from Castle Hill RSL and Mr Matthew Fuller, Director Educational Leadership from The Ponds Network. Our students participated respectfully and listened to stories of veterans and their reflections of ANZAC Day.

On Anzac Day, as always, our student leaders attended the Castle Hill RSL Anzac Dawn Ceremony held at Wrights Reserve. Always a lovely service, it was wonderful to see so many young people acknowledging and honouring our history. Attending the Dawn Ceremony has now become a very important part of our student leaders roles. This year, stories were told of the significance of ANZAC Day as it has evolved through the years. It was a very moving service and we were honoured to represent Sherwood Ridge PS on this day.



Mrs Blacker, Deputy Principal

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Last term, our School Captains Emily J and Rohan M joined other school representatives across The Ponds Network and South Creek Network of schools at a Network Student Forum.

We are proud to let our community know that Emily has been voted by her peers in The Ponds Network to represent them in a Metropolitan North Directorate level forum, a regional Student Representative Council (SRC). Each network selected two students, one primary and one secondary to be a part of the Metropolitan North Directorate Student Council.

We are so excited for Emily to have this opportunity to further develop her leadership skills in her new position on the council. She will meet with the Executive Director Mrs Brennan once a term to discuss topics that impact all students in Metropolitan North and provide student voice across many schools in the directorate. We wish her well at her SRC Induction Ceremony in early June. Well done, Emily!



Mrs Sullivan, Principal

DEBATING WORKSHOP

On Thursday of Week 2, nine of our Year 5 debaters went on an excursion to Toongabbie Public School. They spent the day learning all about the ins and outs of being a great debater, with many pro tips on how to make your winning arguments!

The afternoon was dedicated to rebutting an opposing argument and then presenting their own arguments. What was great about this was the chance to get personal feedback from the head of NSW debating himself!

It was a very interesting, engaging, educational day.

Mrs Rose and Mr Lee, Debating Coordinators



TRI-SCHOOL DEBATING COMPETITION – ROUND 1

In Week 3, one of our Year 5 debating teams travelled to Samuel Gilbert Public School (SGPS) to compete in the first round of the Tri-School Debating Competition.

Our team did an excellent job presenting their arguments for why school holidays should be extended. It was a close contest but the win was awarded to the SGPS team.

Our team enjoyed their chance to visit another school, make friends with students from other schools and wear their school blazer with pride.

Well done team!

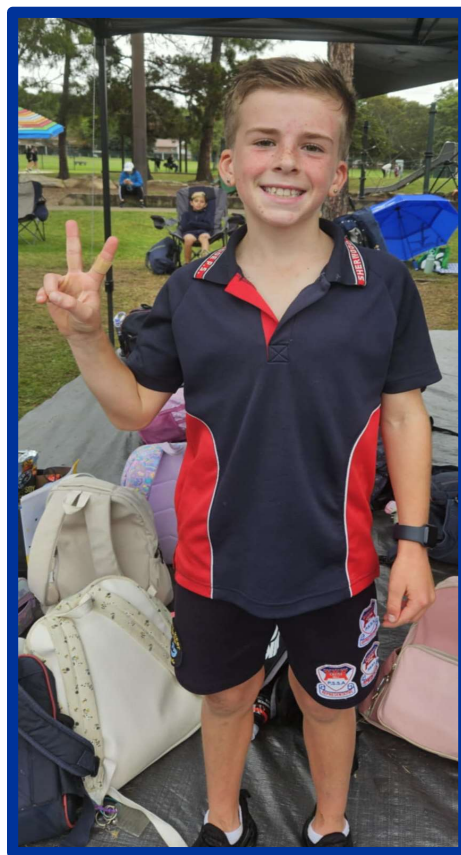
Mrs Rose and Mr Lee, Debating Teachers

ZONE CROSS COUNTRY

On Thursday 15 May, 45 Sherwood Ridge students represented our school at the Castle Hill PSSA Cross Country Carnival. We had some excellent performances with many students performing better than their previous attempt. It's a tough race and all our students crossed the finish line exhausted, after really pushing themselves. Congratulations to all students who participated. Although we are proud of all our students, some standout performances included:

8/9 Year Girls	Bille T - 2nd
8/9 Year Boys	Addison G - 2nd
11 Year Boys	Georgie G - 8th
12/13 Year Girls	Jemima W - 3rd
12/13 Year Boys	Rohan M - 6th

These students will all participate in the Sydney West Carnival later this term.



Mrs Blacker, Deputy Principal

EASTER HAT PARADE

On Friday 11 April, students from K-2, along with their Year 6 buddies, participated in the annual Sherwood Ridge Easter Hat Parade.

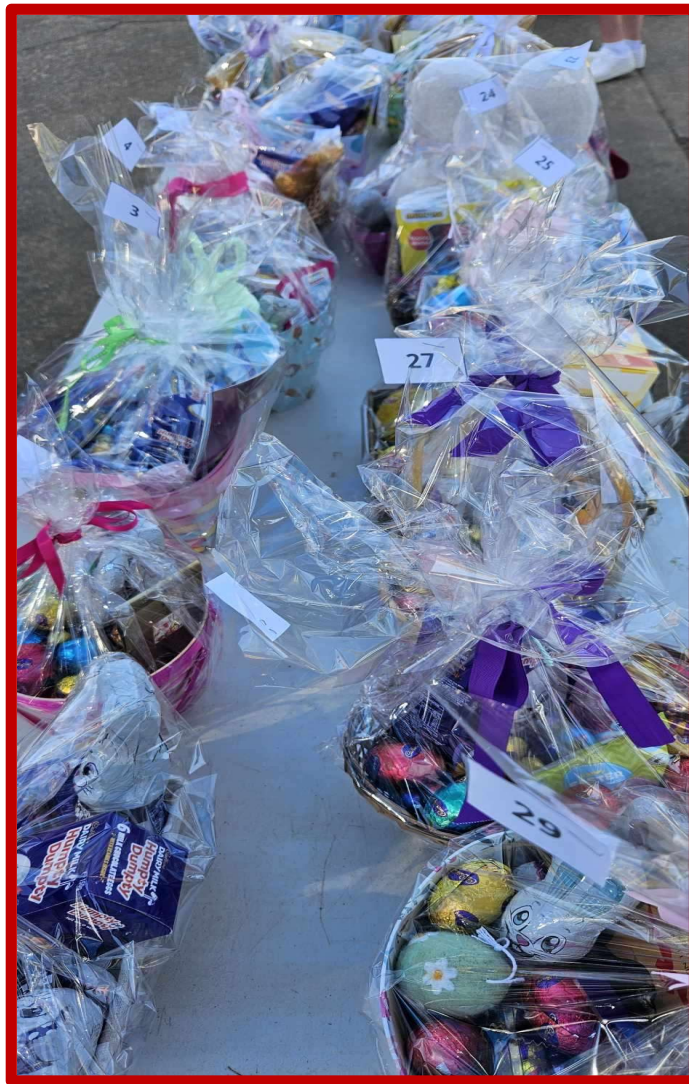
The level of effort and creativity did not go unnoticed, with the hat designs being some of our best to date.

All students had a wonderful time sharing their hat designs with the community and showing off their dance moves to their guests.

Thank you to the P&C for organising and running our Easter raffle. We couldn't do it without you!

We cannot forget the special guest appearance of our very own Sherwood Bear. What an exciting way to end a busy Term 1 of learning.





Literacy and Numeracy News

In classrooms across the school, our students always enjoy a 'Notice and Wonder' as part of their maths lesson. This is when an image or a pattern of some kind is presented to the class and every student is asked to have a look for things they notice and then what they may be wondering.

This helps children see that 'Maths is everywhere.'

The example for this newsletter is a dice collection, so get your eyes ready and maybe a pencil and a piece of paper to record some of your thinking. If you would like to share these on a piece of paper, bring it to the office with your name and class for a Caught You Being Good token.



To get you started, I notice there are 5 rows and 5 columns, making 25 dice altogether.

I also notice that in the first and last row, there are 23 dots. I wonder if this is part of a pattern?

I wonder where the 1 and 2 dot dice are?

I can see 8 threes and 4 sixes - I wonder how many altogether?

What else do you notice or wonder?

Mrs Brodie, Assistant Principal, Curriculum and Instruction

A Message from the Students

SRC LEADERSHIP MORNING

I am an SRC student and last term I went to a leadership morning. I loved it and here are some things I liked and learned. I learned it doesn't matter how popular I am as long as I do the job and am a good leader. I also really liked how we did different things to learn about leadership, not just one thing. We also did group activities to learn about teamwork. In the end, I feel like I know more about leadership and cooperation than before.

Saoirse C, Year 4

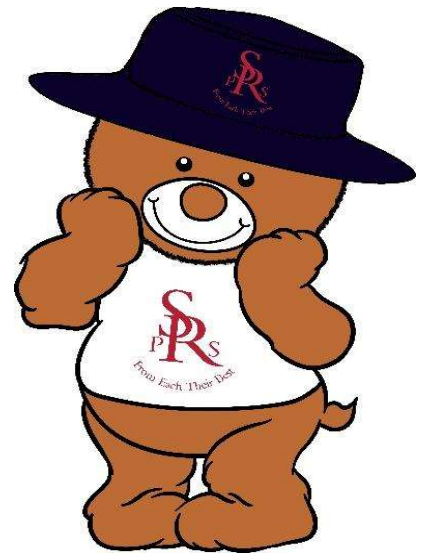
On the Leadership morning, I learnt about what being a leader is. Being a leader doesn't just mean bossing everyone around because you have to lead them, it means showing people the right thing to do and how to do it. That day, I learnt exactly how to be a perfect leader and how to make things a bit fun.

Anahita S, Year 4

PBL News

Sherwood Ridge Public School implements Positive Behaviour for Learning. PBL is an educational process that brings together the whole school community, to contribute to developing a positive, safe and supportive learning culture. The PBL framework assists schools to improve social, emotional, behavioural and academic outcomes for children and young people.

The PBL framework can be used to strengthen the existing systems, structures and processes within the school which underpin the school's ongoing improvement and effectiveness. For example, the PBL framework encourages the use of school-wide data to identify patterns of problem behaviour, monitor student progress, reflect on teaching effectiveness and inform decisions that strengthen the learning environment.



When PBL is effectively implemented, teachers and students have more time to focus on relationships and classroom instruction. Students and staff benefit from:

- reduced problem behaviours
- increased time focused on instruction
- improved social-emotional wellbeing
- positive and respectful relationships among students and staff
- better support for teachers to teach, model and respond effectively to student needs
- a predictable learning environment where staff and students know what is expected to deliver effective practices that can be sustained over time.

RECOGNISING AND REINFORCING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AT SRPS

Sherwood Stars

Sherwood stars are awarded to students for demonstrating school expectations. A student who receives, on average, one Sherwood Star per week, will receive one badge per year, up to 2 badges. While we encourage students to follow the expectations and do their best for intrinsic reward, we also recognise that students enjoy an extrinsic reward.

Merit Awards

Four merit awards per class are handed out at the school's fortnightly assemblies. These are to recognise behaviour that aligns with the core values of Learning, Respect and Community, or the school's expectations of: Be Safe, Be Respectful and Be a Learner.

Caught You Being Good Tokens

Tokens are given to students during all settings when they are caught displaying 'good' [expected] behaviour. These tokens are more readily given out in playground settings. Students place these in their

stage boxes, located on the playground. Each week, students are randomly drawn from the ‘Caught You Being Good’ boxes and are rewarded with a canteen voucher.

SPA CLUBS IN 2025

Our Supported/Structured Play Areas (SPA Clubs) began in Week 6 Term 1.

SPA Clubs provide leadership opportunities for students to build leadership skills whilst supporting our whole school community to further develop their social and emotional knowledge and skills. We are proud to continue to provide these opportunities which align with our Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) framework and expectations.

As part of our whole-school High Potential and Gifted Education (HP&GE) initiative, we are excited to be able to provide various SPA Clubs across the week, which provide opportunity for our students to develop their talents and nurture their potential in the creative, physical, social-emotional and intellectual domains. The activities offered in our SPA Clubs this term include; Sketchers (Sketching Club), Origami Club, Sticker Making Club, Debating Club, Drama Club, Singing & Dancing Club, Anime Drawing Club, Crochet Club and Just Dance Club.

In addition, we are enlisting our school leaders to support our new Table Tennis Area, which was a gift to the school from Year 6 2024, and our K-2 students with soccer skills expectations.

Please see below for our SPA timetable for Term 2 (updated Wk3):

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
‘Sketchers’ Sketching Club <i>Obstacle Course</i> Crochet Club <i>Obstacle Course</i> Sticker/Collage Club <i>Asphalt/COLA</i>	Sticker Making Club <i>Asphalt/COLA</i> Origami Club <i>Outside the Library</i> Just Dance <i>2G classroom</i>	Dancing & Singing Club <i>Asphalt/COLA</i>	Dancing & Singing Club <i>Asphalt/COLA</i> Drama Club <i>Outside the Library</i> Crochet Club <i>Obstacle Course</i>	Anime Drawing Obstacle Course
	Debating Club Mrs Rose 4/5R			Just Dance/Dance Club Mrs Misela Hall
Soccer Support <i>Top Grass</i>		Soccer Support <i>Top Grass</i>		
Table Tennis Support - Year 6 House Leaders (rostered)				

Please discuss these options with your child and encourage them to come along!

If you have any questions or would like to discuss anything regarding PBL, please do not hesitate to contact your child’s teacher or the school office.

Mrs Greer Misela, Stage 1 Assistant Principal (Rel.) & PDHPE Leader

2026 Enrolments

KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENT FOR 2026

We are now accepting Kindergarten enrolments for 2026. Please contact our enrolment's officer Mrs Gardner on 8824 3333 to enquire or apply online via our School Website at the following link - <https://sherwood-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/about-our-school/enrolment.html>

SCHOOL TOURS

Do you have a friend or relative who resides in our local area and has a child starting school in 2026? Please encourage them to contact the school for a tour, which is led by the Principal or Deputy Principal. The next SRPS tour date is Tuesday 24 June at 9.15am. Please call the school to book on 8824 3333.

Important Information

ATTENDANCE - EVERY DAY MATTERS

We want to do all we can to be sure your child achieves their potential and enjoys being at school. Students are required to attend school every day, whether it's the first or last day of the term, Mondays, Fridays or days dedicated to sports carnivals, school excursions and incursions. Being at school every day boosts student learning and confidence and helps them build and maintain friendships. One way we can help make this happen is to ensure your child attends school each day, unless they are sick or are absent for a justified reason.

Protecting the wellbeing of our students through the reporting and monitoring of student absences is the responsibility of both parents and carers and schools. Notifying the school either before or on the day that your child is away, helps us keep accurate student attendance records to support you and your child.

When your child is unwell

If your child is unwell they will need to stay home and only return to school when symptom free. An explanation for absence must be provided to the school within 7 days of the first day of any period of absence. Our school has a daily SMS (text) system to make this process easier for families.

Medical appointments

Families are asked to make medical appointments outside of school hours, this includes paramedical appointments such as therapies. Medical certificates must be provided to explain the leave, and if the principal accepts this explanation, then leave will be approved. Without a medical certificate, the leave will be registered as an explained, yet unjustified.

Applications for Leave

We have recently had a large number of requests for approval to take leave to go on a family holiday. A reminder that holidays should only be booked during school breaks and students should be at school every day during the school term, right from beginning to end. Please be advised that holidays taken by students outside of school holiday periods are registered as absences.

As per department policy, a Certificate of Exemption may be issued by the school in advance of the leave period, if an explanation of the absence has been accepted by the principal. This may be due to: misadventure or unforeseen event; participation in special events not related to the school; domestic necessity such as serious illness of an immediate family member; attendance at funerals; or recognised religious festivals or ceremonial occasions.

Missing a day here or there may not seem like much, but absences add up and can impact your child's learning more than you think. When your child misses one day a week over a year, that's 40 days of school, 8 weeks of lessons and 2.5 years over their school life lost. Our school strives for the expected attendance rate, which is above 95% of students at school each day over the year.




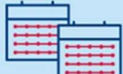
As we look ahead to the remainder of the school year, I'd like to remind our school community that we are here to work with you to support your child to thrive. We know that families experience a variety of challenging circumstances, and we are committed to working with you to address any barriers to regular attendance.

If your child is feeling anxious about coming to school and you need support, please reach out to your child's teacher or call to speak with a senior executive staff member on 8824 3333. There are also helpful resources for parents and carers on the [NSW Department of Education website](https://www.nsw.gov.au/education).

If you speak a language other than English and need help talking with our staff, please telephone the interpreter service on 131 450. This service is free. [Listen in your language](#) or see [How to contact the Telephone Interpreter Service](#).

Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...	they miss weeks per year	and years over their school life
1 day per fortnight 	4 weeks 	Over 1 year missed
1 day per week 	8 weeks 	Over 2.5 years missed

education.nsw.gov.au



NATIONALLY CONSISTENT COLLECTION OF DATA

Every year, all Government and non-Government schools across Australia are required to participate annually in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD) on school students with disability. The NCCD process requires schools to provide information already available in the school about support provided to students. This data will be provided to the Australian Government to assist in the development of a consistent, national picture of the education needs of students with a disability. If your child has had an adjustment made to support them with their learning, then the student may be included in the data for this financial year.

For further information about the NCCD, please use the following link:

<https://www.nccd.edu.au/tools/fact-sheet-parents-guardians-and-carers>.

If you have any questions about data collection, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Cathy Keller or Mrs Suzana Zic, Learning and Support Teachers on 8824 3333.

Mrs Cathy Keller and Mrs Suzana Zic, Learning and Support Teachers

School App

 School Bytes



Apple



Google

School App – School Bytes (the main source of communication)

- Informational notes across all year groups.
- Push notifications – get instant notifications regarding school events and alerts. Make sure that Notifications are turned on.
- School Community Calendar – upcoming dates relevant to your child's year level.

Uniform Shop

The uniform shop is located inside the school hall and is open at the following hours during the school term.

Monday 2:00pm - 3:30pm

Wednesday 8:30am - 10:00am

Alternatively, you can shop online at any time with orders being delivered twice a week to your child's classroom.

<https://valourschools.com.au/collections/sherwood-ridge-public-school>

You can contact the uniform shop on 02 9651 3711 or email srps@valourschools.com.au

Community Noticeboard

KLEINER FITNESS

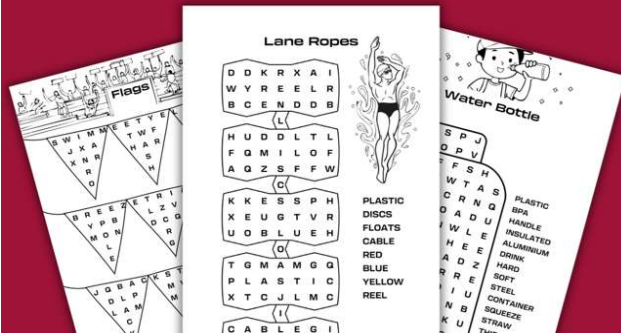
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