



2020 Welcome

Dear Parents / Carers,

Parents as Partners

The best way to encourage students to value education is to show them that you value it too. This can be done by ensuring your child:

- Attends school every day.
- Arrives to and is collected from school on time every day.
- Has the full school uniform and is well-groomed.
- Has the required classroom equipment.
- Has a sufficient amount of nutritious food and water every day.

Senior School Program

In 2020, Stage 3 (Year 5 and 6) will continue the Senior School program providing quality, yet differentiated programs to assist students in their preparation for and transition to high school. This year, with the growing number in Stage 3 we are able to run the Senior School program within Year 5 and Year 6 separately. The focus will be on developing students as independent learners and matching the curriculum to each child's skill level. The aim is to expose students to learning situations beyond the regular classroom, maximising opportunities to learn and develop new skills and foster talent in specific areas. Students are identified according to performance level in English and Mathematics and provided with a differentiated program to meet their identified needs.

Homework

Homework tasks for Senior School English and Mathematics are issued every Monday and returned the following Monday.

Senior School English homework will comprise of:

- Home Reading is for 15 - 30 minutes per night. Students are expected to record a log of their home reading in their diaries and for it to be initialled by parent/caregiver.

Please look at the following document for some tips for home reading with your child.

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/going-to-a-public-school/translated-documents/reading-with-your-child-at-home>

- English - Students are to complete the weekly assigned activity.
- Additional activities may be set by the Senior School English teacher.

Senior School Maths homework will comprise of:

- Maths Mentals textbook - Students are to complete the weekly set unit. To enable students to receive timely feedback, we ask that parents mark these pages with their child. As an alternative, some students will complete regular Maths Olympiad activities.
- Additional activities may be set by the Senior School Maths teacher.

Home Class Homework

- Home research tasks are set by the Home Class teacher, these are larger term based assignments which match History or Geography outcomes.

We encourage students to discuss with their teachers any issues they may have when completing homework. If you have any questions please contact the appropriate class teacher.

English

English is the study and use of the English language in its various forms. Students will engage with a variety of spoken, written and visual texts of varying complexity through which meaning is shaped, conveyed, interpreted and reflected upon. The students will give several oral presentations throughout the year as well as engage in class discussions. Guided reading continues to support students to develop reading skills, decode texts successfully and progress as independent readers.

Mathematics

The NSW Mathematics syllabus aims for students to develop an increasingly sophisticated understanding of mathematical concepts and fluency with mathematical processes. The objectives covered in Mathematics for K-6 are: Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry and Statistics and Probability. In addition to the current Mathematics program, students will be working on mental computation and problem solving.

History

The Year 5 focus topic for this Semester is **Australian Colonies**.

Students will investigate the following questions:

- What do we know about the lives of people in Australia's colonial past and how do we know?
- How did an Australian colony develop over time and why?
- How did colonial settlement change the environment?
- What were the significant events and who were the significant people that shaped Australian colonies?

The Year 6 focus topic is **Australia as a Nation**.

Students will investigate the following questions:

- Why and how did Australia become a nation?
- How did Australian society change throughout the twentieth century?
- Who were the people who came to Australia? Why did they come?
- What contribution have significant individuals and groups made to the development of our Australian society?

Geography

The Year 5 focus topic for Semester 2 is **Factors that Shape Places**.

Students will investigate the following questions:

- How do people and environments influence one another?
- How do people influence places and the management of spaces within them?
- How can the impact of bushfires on people and places be reduced

The Year 6 focus topic for Semester 2 is **A Diverse and connected World**.

Students will investigate the following questions:

- How do places, people and cultures differ across the world?
- What are Australia's global connections?
- How do people's connections to places affect their perception of them?

Science/STEM

The Year 5 focus for Semester 1 is **Material World**.

Students will investigate the following questions:

- How can the state of materials be changed and manipulated?
- What is the result of combining materials?
- Why are the characteristics of materials important when designing and producing?

The Year 6 focus for Semester 1 is **Physical World**.

Students will investigate the following questions:

- How can we make a force stronger or weaker?
- What types of energy transformations can be observed?
- How can electricity be used in a product or system?

Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE)

The Year 5 focus topics for this year are:

- Semester 1: Personal Safety and Wellbeing (Healthy, Safe and Active Lifestyles) and Rhythmic Gymnastics (Movement Skill and Performance).
- Semester 2: My Changing Identity (Health, Wellbeing and Relationships) and Soccer (Movement Skill and Performance).

The Year 6 focus topics for this year are:

- Semester 1: How we keep safe - Child protection and digital safety and Athletics & Cross Country (Movement Skill and Performance).
- Semester 2: Puberty and coping with change and physical awareness and Basketball (Movement Skill and Performance).

Each term students will be provided with the opportunity to participate in interschool PSSA (Primary Schools Sports Association) or School Sport.

REMINDER: Personal Hygiene - It is vital to encourage students to **wash** and **wear deodorant** every day.

Digital Citizenship

Randwick Public School identifies that internet, and Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) play an increasingly important role. Students continue to engage in lessons throughout the year that are aligned with the PDHPE syllabus. We recommend that parents visit:

- Common Sense Media <http://www.common sense media.org/>
- eSafety Commissioner <https://www.esafety.gov.au/>

iPads

In 2020, all Stage 3 students have 1:1 access to iPads. Students will carry their iPads to each of their classes and may be required to use them by different teachers. Students should be aware of and abide by the guidelines set out by the Responsible Digital Use Agreement. Teachers have the right to search an iPad to ensure compliance with the school's iPad rules and agreement. Students in breach of either, may be subject to but not limited to; disciplinary action, confiscation and removal of content.

Creative Arts (Visual Arts, Drama, Music & Dance)

The Year 5 focus topics for this year are:

- Semester 1: Visual Arts and Drama
- Semester 2: Dance and Music
- Concert - Term 3, Week 6

The Year 6 focus topics for this year are:

- Semester 1: Dance and Drama

- Semester 2: Visual Arts and Music
- Concert - Term 2, Week 9

In Semester 1, students will start to prepare for their 2020 concert. More information about this exciting event will come shortly.

Interviews: Three way Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews for English and Maths

Three way interviews are held for English and Maths and provide a forum for teachers, students and parents to acknowledge student progress and achievement. In three way conferences, students engage in explaining their learning achievements as well as areas for further improvement.

The benefits of three way interviews include:

- empowering students to work towards outcomes and goals;
- enhancing students’ self-esteem by allowing them to share their learning opportunities in a positive environment;
- increasing parent’s understanding of learning and assessment and allows parents to participate in the reporting process.

You are welcome to request interviews at other times by appointment. Please call or email the school office to arrange an interview.

High School

Students may apply for other local high schools, however it is a good idea to attend all of the High Schools information evenings and to be proactive in finding out as much as you can about each school to make an informed decision. Randwick Boys and Randwick Girls are our zoned local high schools.

Assessment & Reporting

Classroom assessment is continuous and students are issued with a formal Semester 1 and Semester 2 report. Taken into consideration is class bookwork and participation, anecdotal records, homework, projects and tests. Please be reminded that grades are not based on tests alone.

Class Requirements:

As Stage 3 students have 3 different learning areas, it is important that all students carry all necessary equipment with them in a small pencil case. Pencil cases should be left at school so they are not forgotten. If a student forgets or does not have all the requirements their learning may be impacted as they are not prepared for the lesson.

Please attempt to label as many items as possible.

Stationery Requirements		
Black, blue and red pen	Ruler	Lead pencil
Rubber	Sharpener	Scissors
Glue	Whiteboard markers	Small headphones
Highlighters		

You could greatly assist us by:

- Reporting your child’s absence to the school on the same day by phoning or emailing the school office randwick-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au . Unexplained absences will be followed up by a phone call/note.
- Completing late notes at the office when your child arrives late or leaves early for school.
- Ensuring that all homework is completed promptly and to an acceptable standard, using an appropriate schedule that does not encourage your child to leave work until the last minute.

- Encouraging your child to read every night.
- Placing your child's name and class on all belongings.
- Ensuring your child wears a broad brimmed hat and sunscreen to school every day (especially sports days.)
- Making payments online or sending any notes to the school in **labelled** envelopes.
- Please remember to sign up for CareMonkey and Skoolbag to receive up to date school information and excursion/permission notes.

I appreciate your continued support throughout the year.

Thank you.

Quetzal Bell
Assistant Principal Stage 3

Important Dates:

These dates may change so please keep updated via the fortnightly School Newsletter/SkoolBag for possible changes, additions and further details.

N.B. These dates mostly relate specifically to Stage 3.

What	Grade	Details
Induction Assembly	2- 6	Term 1 Thursday 12th February
PSSA/School Sport Begins	Y5/Y6	Term 1 Friday 14th February
Swimming Carnival	2- 6	Term 1 Wednesday 19th February
Selective High School Test	Y6	Term 1 Thursday 12 th March
Canberra Excursion	Y6	Term 1 Monday March 23 rd –Wednesday 25 th March
Rocks Excursion	Y5	Term 1 Monday March 23 rd or Tuesday 24 th March
Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews	Y5/Y6	Term 1 Weeks 10/11
NAPLAN National Assessment Program – English and Numeracy	Y5	Term 2 Tuesday 12th May - Friday 22th May
Year 6 Concert	Y6	Term 2 Week 9 Various days between, June 22nd - June 26th
Interrelate	Y5/Y6	Term 3 Parent /Student evening TBC Y6 - 17th, 24th and 31st August Y5 - 2nd, 9th and 16th September
Year 5 Concert	Y5	Term 3 Week 6 Various days between, August 24th - August 28th
Year 5 Leadership Day	Y5	Term 4 TBC
Presentation Day	2-6	Term 4 TBC
Year 6 Farewell	Y6	Term 4 TBC
Year 5 Camp	Y5	Term 4 Monday 16th - Wednesday 18th December
Year 6 Camp	Y6	Term 4 Tuesday 8th - Thursday 10th December
Students' last day	Whole School	Term 4 Wednesday 16 th December