

RIVERSIDE CURRENTS

Riverside Girls High School Parent & Community Newsletter November 2008

Calendar Dates

Term 4

November

Friday 21	-Year 11 Presentation Assembly -Year 7 Swim School grading
Tuesday 25	-Year 8 ESSA Exam
Friday 28	-Year 10 Presentation Assembly -Last day for Y10, 1.45pm
Friday 28	-Schools Spectacular, Entertainment Centre
Saturday 29	-Schools Spectacular, Entertainment Centre

December

Monday 1	-Year 9 Science Fair, Hall
Tuesday 2	-Year 9 Science Fair, Hall -Year 7 Swim School Orientation
Thursday 4	-Year 6 into 7 Orientation Day, 7.30 am to 11.30 am
Monday 8	-Year 7 Swim School
Tuesday 9	-Year 7 Swim School
Wednesday 10	-Year 7 Swim School
Thursday 11	-Year 7 Swim School
Friday 12	-Year 7 Swim School
Tuesday 16	-Years 7, 8 & 9 Presentation Assembly, School Hall, 1.45pm
Wednesday 17	-HSC Results available
Thursday 18	-UAI results directly to Y12
Friday 19	- Last Day of School Year!

January 2009

Tuesday 27	- School Resumes Teachers only
Wednesday 28	-Years 11 & 12 return at 9.00am -Year 10 returns at 12.00pm
Thursday 29	-Years 8 & 9 return at 9.00am -Year 7 returns at 12.00 pm

Principal's Report

Riverside ex students

We are very proud of the achievements of our ex students. They are doing well in a wide variety of occupations. In 2009 we are going to establish a photo gallery of ex students so the current students can celebrate the achievements of former Riverside girls.

Camilla di-Biase-Dyson our dux of 1999 was recently awarded her Ph.D. in Egyptology at Macquarie University. Camilla has been lecturing in Ancient History at Macquarie University since her graduation and several Riverside girls have been in her classes. Ancient History continues to be a strong subject at Riverside and we are thrilled about Camilla's Ph.D.

Louise Markey one of our 1998 HSC students has just launched her own fashion label, **L F Markey**, in London. She has won several fashion design awards and has been acclaimed as an innovative young designer. Louise always wanted to be a fashion designer and 10 years after leaving school, here she is, a successful designer with a growing international reputation. We are thrilled about her success.

Year 11 Presentation Assembly

Year 11 will now receive their awards on Friday 21st November at 10.30am. Originally the assembly was to be held on Wednesday 19th November but unfortunately we could not keep the original date because of scheduled industrial activity as part of a dispute with the NSW government.

Orientation Day for Year 6 into 7

The orientation morning starts at 7.30am on Thursday 4th December. The early start gives parents and new students an opportunity to organise school uniforms, Book Packs and fees. We look forward to meeting all 200 new Year 7 students at the orientation morning. We welcome the support of parent at the orientation morning so if you can assist anytime between 7.30 am and 11.30 am with the parent information table, the gelato stall or uniforms do contact Cheryl Osborne P & C president on 9878 3028.

Exodus Foundation Christmas Appeal

Lots of families will be facing financial difficulty this year so we need all Riverside girls to bring

food items for the Rev. Bill Crews Exodus Foundation at Ashfield. We support the foundation every Christmas and we are doing so again this year. The student leaders are organising the collection of tinned food items so we urge all families to become involved. The Exodus Foundation assists thousands of families with food parcels at Christmas time, regardless of their personal religious convictions. The Exodus Foundation has a strong commitment to social justice.

World Teachers Day

The local Baha'i Community supported World Teachers Day on 31 October recently by supplying a lovely morning tea for all the Riverside teachers. The Baha'i's value teachers and learning as part of their commitment to world peace and the promotion of international harmony.

Bus Passes 2009

The state government announced this week that bus passes for secondary students will cost \$90 in 2009. There is a cap of \$180 per family. Passes for primary students will cost \$45. We have no details about how payments are to be made. There will be exemptions from payment for some parents according to designated financial hardship categories but we do not have details of this yet.

The NSW government has also announced that the \$50 back to school allowance will not be paid in future. Our hospitals and public schools continue to be underfunded. We can only hope that our state can find some inspirational politicians to demonstrate leadership and planning skills who can rescue our state from this economic meltdown. Where did all the GST go? Why is NSW struggling financially? These are the questions all citizens and media outlets are asking.

P&C 2009

Cheryl Osborne has been elected president of the P & C for 2009. Congratulations to Cheryl. We are very pleased that Cheryl will be president for another year as her daughter will be in Year 12 in 2009. The P&C supports the school in so many ways and we thank them for everything they have done in 2008 to support the education of your daughters. We look forward to working with Cheryl and the P & C in 2009.

HSC 2009

The HSC exams are now over. The girls will receive their HSC results on Wednesday 17 December and those who have applied for a UAI will receive it on Thursday 18th December. We wish them all every success for 2009 and beyond as they enrol in Uni or TAFE or sign up for the workforce. They will be navigating a difficult world with lots of challenges but the election of Barack Obama as President of the USA on the 4th November surely indicates that optimism and

hope are alive and well. We can all take inspiration from his extraordinary personal story. Wouldn't it be wonderful if NSW could find our own local Barack Obama? Here's hoping!

Education "Revolution"

NSW public schools have been told that they may not register the federal Department of Education for the allocation of lap tops, in keeping with the Rudd government's election promise of 2007.

While publicly funded private schools have registered and received the rollout of \$1000 per unit for laptops we are still waiting. Public schools have been told that the cost of supplying a single laptop to us over 4 year period is \$4,668 but the ALP Government will fund only \$1000 per unit. This was not negotiated with the NSW government before the November 2007 election. The NSW government cannot fund the remaining \$3,668 per laptop so here we are, one year on from the federal election without any laptops, while overfunded private schools are accessing their full entitlement of the technology roll out. Perhaps the COAG meeting on 17th November can retrieve the situation for NSW Public Schools. I am sure our 7th Education minister in 7 years, The Hon. Verity Firth, will do her best for us.

Watch this space!!

We wish all students and their families a peaceful and restful Christmas period and January vacation. Thanks to all of you for enriching our public secondary school in the inner west of Sydney. Long may we enjoy your support.

Judy King – Principal

P&C Report

During the Term 3 vacation, the P&C arranged for Wilson's Tree Service of Marsfield to remove 5 trees and to trim hazardous branches from approximately 20 trees, mainly in the senior lawn area of the school. All trees and branches were mulched and spread throughout the area, reducing the risk of branches falling without notice. Many thanks Don and his team.

The tender for the operation of the school canteen will be published in the media shortly. Any parents interested in being a part of a committee to oversee the tender process and to select the operators of the canteen for the next 3 years, should contact Mr Teece, via the office, as soon as possible.

The AGM of Riverside P&C was held on Wednesday 12 November, at 7.30pm in the common room. Nominations were open for all positions. The P&C is your voice to the school and provides an excellent opportunity for parents and caregivers to be involved and become familiar

with events/issues happening within the school. Officeholder's duties are as follows:

Chairperson- Duties: primarily to chair the meetings held monthly on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. Also to organise and assist with events and activities as required.

Minute secretary-Duties: to note the minutes of each general and annual meeting and distribute those minutes. Keep the attendance book.

Correspondence Secretary- Duties: to collect and log all correspondence sent to the P&C and to write letters as required. Also to issue notices of meetings, minutes and other P&C events, via the email system.

Treasurer-Duties: To keep all financial records of the P&C, and assist with budget preparation. If you would like more details, or information on the amount of work/time involved please call or email me.

Reports on activities during the year and the financial statements will be delivered by the Chairperson and the Treasurer respectively. It is your P&C please support it.

Orientation Day is Thursday the 4th December from 7.30am to approx. 11.30 am.

Volunteers are required to assist incoming year 7 parents and girls, in the clothing pool, from 7.30am, and in various other ways on the day. The P&C will be operating the gelato stand on this day and on Friday, the 5th, which will also require assistance. Ideally 7 or 8 people will be required. If you can spare any time to assist with either of these activities, it would be greatly appreciated.

Please contact Cheryl Osborne, 9878 3028 or by email to riversideGHS@gmail.com

Australian Language Certificates 2008

This year many LOTE students once again entered the Australia-wide Assessment of Language Competence tests. The LOTE staff would like to acknowledge the outstanding effort and achievements of the students in the Years 9-12 elective classes who excelled themselves in all areas of the competition and received the following range of wonderful results:-

High distinction awards were received by:-

Year 10 German:

Courtney Cohn, Moira Deutinger, Stephanie Harb, Karina Kubovicova, Kumbelin Levin, Lily Matthews, Daisy Muljono

Year 10 Italian:

Elizabeth Salvagio, Matilda Simpson, Jessica Zibellini

Year 11 German:

Anna Andronikashvili (Anna completed both sections of the competition without making an error)

Year 12 French:

Eunji Song

Distinction awards were received by the following students:-

Year 9 French:

Jacqueline Lam

Year 9 German:

Katrina Diamante, Sophie Green, Lydia Hahn, Amanda Isacson, Patricia Lor

Year 9 Italian:

Isabella Tassone

Year 10 German:

Melissa Arbabi, Joyce Chew, Zoe Finlayson, Colette Laney, Vicki Lor

Year 10 Italian:

Constance Apostolopoulos, Persephonie Jamons

Year 11 German:

Melanie Brown

Year 12 Italian:

Melody Arbabi, Kate Butler-Howell

Year 12 French:

Jessica Lam

The following students in Years 9, 10 and 11 are also to be commended on their successful participation in the competition and their impressive levels of achievement (including the achievement of many credit awards).

Year 9 French:

Azize Asanovski, Rosie Broad, Eloise Hodgson, Arina Kim, Maxine North, Madeleine Pfull, Hannah Wicks

Year 9 German:

Emma Dorranean, Alexandra Ivkovic, Alexandra Ho, Ashley Hopton, Arina Kim, Victoria King, Elizabeth Koo, Jessica Newmarch, Caoife Power, Michelle Rakowski, Alexandra Warnes-Wagstaff, Florence Yuan

Year 9 Italian:

Bronte Black, Emma Dorranean, Rachel Kemsley

Year 10 German:

Maito Nishiwaki

Year 11 German

Sarah Barnett, Isabella Bianchino, Lucy Goldstein, Jordan French, Zoe Linton, Jade Prothero

Well done to all of you who participated. We are very proud of your achievements and we look forward to seeing another round of fabulous results next year!

Ms Haigh, Ms Antunes, Ms Austin and Ms Crocco

Carols by Candlelight

Hunters Hill Council will be holding its annual Carols by Candlelight celebration at Boronia Park on **Sunday 7 December from 6.30pm – 8.30pm**. A number of girls in the Riverside school choir will be participating in the event together with many other students from local primary and high schools. Try to make it along with your family.

Song Writing Talent

One of Riverside's year 8 students entered the National Song Writing Competition earlier this year. Jacklyn Szetu wrote her own song, and had some help recording her tune from her sister, Samantha, a former student of Riverside.

Her song "Change" was chosen by the leading music industry recording company, Mushroom Music, as one of the Top 6 tunes from a total of nearly 800 entrants. Although she came close to winning, Jacklyn felt the experience was well worth the effort. Congratulations to her for this outstanding achievement.

Dental Services

Should any students need access to the Dental Health Services Clinic for assessment or treatment; their parents need to call the Northern Sydney Dental Call Centre. It is important that your child has regular dental check-ups from either your private dentist or the local child dental clinic. If you wish to attend a local dental clinic please phone the Call Centre on **1300 789 404**.

You will be required to provide your Medicare number and answer some questions about your child that will enable them to provide your child with the most appropriate care.

Can You Help?

Would you like to give a bit of your time to brighten up the lives of some people? Gladesville Community Aid's Volunteer Visiting Program is urgently looking for a few volunteers who would be able to help to visit people in their homes and who are isolated and lonely. If you can spare an hour or so a week or a fortnight please call **Magdalene on 9817 0101**.

Training and support will be provided and all information about volunteers and clients are kept private and confidential.

Your volunteering makes a lot of difference to yourself and to others!

Mobile Phone Fundraiser

It is estimated that there are 16 million old mobile phones just lying around in office and home drawers in Australia alone! These phones contain toxins that must not find their way into landfill sites. These phones can be recycled and earn money for our school. Belair Public School, for example, raised over \$2000. Every old mobile phone collected will raise \$5 for the school. Simply bring in your unwanted phone, no matter its age or condition and drop it off in the box in the school office. This not only helps the school but the entire planet and is a great way for children (and parents) to learn about recycling. For further information call Peter on 0410 511695 or go to the website www.envirofone.com.au

The Uniform Shop

Profits from the Uniform Shop go to the school

Opening Hours The Uniform Shop is open every week on Thursday before school (8.30 - 9.00am) 2nd Recess (11.45 – 12.05pm) and at lunch time (1.00pm - 2.00pm) in the Uniform Shop located next to the Staff Common Room.

Contact: Lesley Campbell at the school office Ph: 9816 4264

Junior School Blouse (White)	\$25.00
Junior Blouse (long sleeve)	\$30.00
Junior Skirt Royal Check	\$55.00
V-Neck Woolblend jumper with logo	\$55.00
V-Neck Woolblend vest	\$35.00
Polar fleece jacket with logo	\$35.00
Trousers navy (2 pocket stretch bootcut)	\$45.00
Trousers navy (non stretch bootcut)	\$45.00
Senior Blouse (blue) (Yrs 11 & 12)	\$25.00
Senior Blouse (long sleeve)	\$30.00
Senior Skirt Navy	\$30.00
Scarf	\$10.00
Beret with school logo	\$25.00

Payments: Cash, cheque or credit card are accepted
Cheques should be made payable to Riverside Girls High School

Exchanges & returns Please encourage your daughters to try on samples before purchase.

Goods will only be exchanged *if they have not been worn.*
If items need to be exchanged, please return them in their original packaging with the docket.

The Uniform Shop News

- Polar fleece jackets with Riverside logo are now available for \$35.00.
- If you would like to order a wool blend Winter coat- cost \$89.00 Order forms are available from the Uniform Shop

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Riverside Girls High School – October/November 2008