From the Principal
Well done to staff and students. Our just-released NAPLAN results are excellent. Schools are compared nationally to ‘like schools’ rather than to local schools. Our group of ‘like schools’ comprises a number of private eastern states schools – not the close neighbouring schools that you might expect. It’s tough competition.

Schools are rated as ‘above’, ‘on a par with’ or ‘below’ their ‘like schools’ on all areas of NAPLAN.

We were above our ‘like schools’ in year 3 numeracy, reading, spelling and grammar & punctuation, and also in year 7 reading, spelling and grammar & punctuation.

We were on a par with ‘like schools’ in year 3 writing, year 7 numeracy and writing and in all areas in year 5.

We were not below ‘like schools’ in any area.

We were well above the national average in all areas in all year groups.

Sometimes it’s good to celebrate successes…

- Our early childhood program is at the forefront in terms of current pedagogy – and lots of families know that and are waiting to get a place next year.
- Staff and parents continually organise interesting extra-curricular activities for students to enjoy.
- We have strong specialist programs in The Arts and in Physical Education (we are in A division for all interschool sports, despite not being a large school).
- We have a thriving P&C that continually organises enjoyable activities for the school community.
- We remain completely over-subscribed and I take multiple enrolment enquiries every week.

It’s often easy to take things for granted. We all know it takes a huge effort from everyone in the community to give students the opportunity to excel in all areas. Congratulations to all the staff and parents of Richmond who support our students so well to achieve their potential and make the school such a lovely place to be. We are all very fortunate to be here.

Lisa Dentith
From the Principal

Eric Christian
I am sad to say that we have had some upsetting news this week. Eric Christian, a long-time supporter of Richmond and much loved member of the school community, has passed away at home after an illness.

Eric had been involved with the school as a volunteer for decades and had been running athletics with the year 1 students each week for years. He always assisted at our school athletics carnival and had been active in little athletics in the community for a long time. He will be missed by everyone at Richmond.

The family has had a private funeral service and is holding a larger memorial service in our undercover area at 2pm this Sunday to which community members warmly invited.

Student Free Days
Another reminder we begin next term with TWO student free days on the Monday and Tuesday. Students resume on Wednesday 15 October.

Staff will spend the two student free days undertaking professional development. One of the main things that we always analyse at this time of year is our Naplan data. Teachers will analyse trends across year groups and classes to identify areas of strength and weakness so that teaching programs can be adapted during term four to fill any gaps in students’ skills or knowledge.

School Athletics Carnival
Tomorrow it’s our main carnival, all day. Year 6-7 parents will provide refreshments—cakes, savouries and a sausage sizzle.

Staff News Term 4
Farewell to Gail Rose, who is moving to Merredin where her husband has been appointed School Principal. Thanks for being such a great teacher in year 2! Congratulations to Sarah Allott, who will get married in the holidays.
Belated farewell to Laura Field who has now moved to France where her husband is playing rugby. She will not be returning to Richmond.

Thanks!
Many thanks to everyone who came to our breakfast last Friday. Special thanks to all the parents who came along before work. We’ve had a lot of great feedback, some of which I’ve included below. Thanks for your support!

Feedback about the Breakfast!
- Great to have a morning event when people have the energy to socialise (unlike most evening events)!
- Great food!
- There were parents there that had never been at P&C events before and really appreciated the opportunity.
- Lots of dads were able to come and said they loved the opportunity to have breakfast with their kids
- Nice relaxed vibe.
- How well it was organised.
- Brilliantly planned out and equally brilliantly delivered event!
- It got parents to school that wouldn’t normally be able to get to school
- It got parents talking to parents who for whatever reason wouldn’t normally meet each other.
- It raised cash for the school which is always useful ($400).
- It was one less meal for parents to think about or do (always appreciated)
- Coffee was good!
- The children were delighted to be given a yummy breakfast instead of the usual weetbix or wholemeal toast and they loved being at school with parents and friends.
- No breakfast chaos waiting for you at home after assembly!
- A great social event – thanks!!

Lisa Dentith

Graduation Fundraiser Years 6 & 7
Phones. Phones! We need your old unwanted mobile phones to raise money for our graduation.

The phones will be repaired or the parts recycled and the company will give us cash for every phone we send in.

Please bring in your old mobile phones to school and the students from Room 12 will collect them.

Lucas Goldspring Year 6 Room 12
Library News
Thank you to the Murphy family for the donation of lots of excellent books. Plastic bags are needed for the library. If anyone can help, please see me.

Susan Catalano, Library Officer

iPADs
Everyone is kindly donating money in the big glass jar in Admin towards iPads. $465.70 has been collected. Great job everyone. Please keep the money coming.

Archer Larwood, Student Council

Operation Christmas Child
Closing date for shoe boxes is Wednesday 25th September 2014. We have collected 126 shoe boxes so far. Thank you for your support.

Meng, School Chaplain

School Banking
Banking is every Friday in the undercover area from 8.15am. We have had a great response to school banking and have 46 students on our banking database. They love completing their deposit slips and collecting a token each time they bank and are working towards earning their reward – not to mention great saving habits!!

Please contact Liann on 0433929173
Or Sandra on 0400332442.

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD
Not-for-profit ads are provided as a community service and are free. The School Council has decided to accept paid advertising from businesses at $30 per ad. This revenue will be spent on school resources. Businesses wishing to advertise should email a business card sized advert to the school. Services and programs on this page are not necessarily endorsed by the school.

VACSWIM
Enrolments for VacSwim’s summer program are now open. Postcards are available from the school office.

WASTE REDUCTION WORKSHOP
Time: Saturday October 4, 2 – 4:30 pm.
Venue: East Freo Farm, behind 9 Seeds Café,
Facilitators: Barry Healy & Annolies Truman
Come along and learn how to: reduce reuse, recycle; sort your waste into green- and yellow-topped bins; turn your organic waste into beautiful soil.

What to bring: a pen and paper for our theory session (optional); gardening gear, hat & gloves for the waste sort, composting and worm-farming demonstration
To book, truman.healy@bigpond.com or 9433 6946. For subsidised worm farms and compost bins, contact Shelley Cocks, Town East Fremantle, 9339 3915.

Interested in fun school holiday activities that encourage creativity, discovery and exploration? Nearer to Nature is running a range of fun, hands on, nature based activities from Canning River Eco Education Centre. Discover some interesting facts about the river on a canoeing quest, find out the challenges our baby bush birds and ducklings face, or pull on your wellies for a ‘river’ dip to find out what important critters dwell underwater!

www.dpa.wa.gov.au/n2n
Bookings essential. Call 925 2244