

Principal: Douglas Elliott
Assistant Principal: Barbara Nicoll
PO Box 809 Heathmont 3135
Telephone: 9870 6098
Fax: 9870 6051
great.ryrie.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
www.greatryrie.vic.edu.au

NEWSLETTER

NOTICES SENT OUT SINCE LAST NEWSLETTER

Watch this space for notices sent out each week.

If you have not received any of the following notices, please ask your child's teacher, or contact the school office.

| | | |
|----------|----------------------|--------------|
| 13 March | Hot Cross Bun orders | All families |
| 13 March | OSHC Holiday Program | All families |
| 16 March | 3-Way Conferences | All families |

2009 PRODUCTION



**Parent meeting
TOMORROW**

**Friday 20 March
2.30pm in staffroom**

Diary Dates

March

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Friday 20 | I/S Sport v Holy Spirit 2.30pm Parent meeting re 2009 Production |
| Saturday 21 | WORKING BEE HARMONY DAY |
| Monday 23 | Aussie of Month Assembly |
| Wednesday 25 | Chocolate money due back 3-way conferences |

From the Principal



(Volleyball set up in the new improved big shed!)

Working Bee March 21

We are having our first 'Family Working Bee' this Saturday, March 21. We hope to see you here between 9am and 12pm as we have some fantastic gardening projects that we would like to start for the children. You may have already noticed the new bench seat at the front of the school, complete with student mosaics. Our hope is to erect a few more on Saturday. A sausage sizzle lunch will be provided at the end of the morning. Drop in for an hour or come for the whole session!

Watering Great Ryrie:

Some of you may not be aware that since the start of the school year we have been flushing our toilets and watering our gardens with water from the two new 50,000 litre water tanks adjacent to the big shed. With the recent rains our storage has increased from just under 10,000 to a little over 20,000 litres of fresh rainwater!

Indeed everything is looking better already! Despite the bare patches that have dominated

our oval and other grassed areas of the school in recent months, the school grounds seem to have turned green over night!

Interactive Whiteboards For All?

As part of the \$3.2 million available to our school through the Federal Government's recession busting initiative, we have just applied for the first \$200,000.00 to install interactive whiteboards across the school. If we are successful in our application, it is our hope that well before the end of the year, every classroom will be fitted with these whiteboards, which represent the latest in cutting edge technology. Let's keep our fingers crossed!

The Circus Comes To Town

As you are aware we will not be having a Fete this year, as it is a Production year. This year's school production is "Under The Big Top". Students will have the opportunity to demonstrate their talents and skills in a circus extravaganza on the stage of the George Woods Performing Arts Centre in August, 2009.

Games For All!

Thank you to everyone who helped clean out our big shed last week. As you can see in the photo above we have cleared a very useful games and PMP space. Level 2 children have already started their PMP program in the newly cleared area and other classes are continuing to use this bigger space for volleyball, table tennis games and dance.

Wishing you a great weekend,

Doug Elliott
Principal



Level Reports by Our School Captains:
(David, Abbey, Zoe and Ellena)

David: In Level 4 last week, we were focusing on the sound “ur” of return. We have also been concentrating on number patterns and number lines and we finished off our portfolios. Six Sport Managers have been elected and the Student Leaders Workshop will be held on Monday the 23rd of March. We have one more week of interschool sport this term, which we will all enjoy on Friday.

Ellena: In Level 3 last week, the students have been doing plays about water. In Maths they have finished place value and are now working hard on their times tables and counting patterns. They have also been writing a story about ‘The Adventures of a Rain Droplet’.

Abbey: In Level 1 the preps have been focusing on the sound “m” and next week they are doing the sound “s”. In the mornings they have been doing music and making the letter “m” on a biscuit using marshmallows and M ‘n’ Ms, they have been making marble runs. Finally they have been getting a picture of themselves and dressing themselves up. They have had a very busy week.

From Barb’s desk

What Has Been Happening at Great Ryrie

It has been a busy start to the year and lots has been happening behind the scenes, so it is important that we keep our school community updated.

Last year Di Gordon, Helen Abbott and I were involved in a Regional Professional Learning project. We were asked to determine a pressing school issue that needed to be addressed. From our work we felt that in the past couple of years our school culture was changing. We are enrolling students from many diverse cultures. This was something we felt needed to be celebrated and enhanced to promote harmony and student engagement. Our conclusion was, that we wanted to establish a climate where collaboration was a key feature of everything we did.

What we have done so far to facilitate this happening comes under three main areas-

1. **With students** – Last year we introduced Restorative Practices into our school. This helped establish classroom environments where students got to know each other and discussed important issues that affected their relationships with each other and helped them work as a classroom community. This is an extension of the norming process that all classes regularly take part in at the start of each year. Classes establish how they want to be treated and the norms they feel are important to them as a group. This year we have upped the ante by following on from our previous activities and deliberately planned activities that ask children to work collaboratively to achieve a set goal. The children have looked at what needs to be happening in their classrooms to facilitate this collaboration and work on skills such as acceptance, tolerance and inclusion. These three are part of our school values. The children are taught to work in differing size

groups with a variety of partners and many strategies are used to form the groups. Our expectation with this is that through understanding and acceptance, we can develop in our children an appreciation and valuing of cultural diversity and appreciation of the strengths and differences that people bring to our school. Collaborative activities also enhance student engagement and learning.

2. **With staff** – Over the past two years there has been a greater focus on teams working together to organise the curriculum. Level Teams work together to plan the curriculum for the team and share a common work program. The curriculum planning includes meeting the needs of all students and documents the work prepared for the whole class and also the individual needs of students at the top and lower end of the spectrum.

As well as this, during the first three days of the year before students returned for 2009, the staff went to Warburton overnight for a staff conference. The focus was on ‘Working and Learning Collaboratively.’ All staff looked at what skills they bring to their team and how they can best be utilised to enhance student learning. We also looked at how to apply this learning so that it can translate into children working collaboratively in the classroom. Our Level Teams have been implementing what they did at the conference in their classroom practice. Another area that we spent time exploring was ‘What is the Great Ryrie Way?’ We looked at what makes us special and needs to be retained. The last but not least focus was ‘Where to in 2009?’

In 2008 staff used Peer Observation as a powerful tool to enhance their professional development and this year we have established a plan for the inclusion of Peer Coaching into our learning repertoire for teachers. Both these professional learning strategies focus on teachers working collaboratively to reflect, enhance and celebrate their teaching.

3. **With our school community** – This is an area where we are looking at making a greater difference. Some ideas are that we would like to involve our wider community in a greater way in students’ learning and in working collaboratively to enhance our sense of community. This is our review year and we will be writing our new Strategic Plan for the next 4 years. This is an important time to set our direction for the future and have a common vision. Can you help be a part of this work? What you can do is let me know if you are interested and then I can keep you personally informed of activities and discussions that will be taking place.

The Chicken Wing

If you’re staying home over the Easter break (9th – 14th April) and would like to look after the chickens, could you please see Andy MacCartney. The children attending the holiday program will be looking after them during the week.

GREAT RYRIE THANKS THE EASTERN & MOUNTAIN DISTRICT RADIO CLUB WHICH HAS DONATED A WALKIE TALKIE SYSTEM FOR STAFF TO USE WHILST ON YARD DUTY.

**Radio & Electronics White Elephant Sale
Sunday, March 22nd, 2009**

For further details: <http://www.emdrc.com.au>

The Eastern & Mountain District Radio Club is once again holding its annual Radio and Electronics White Elephant Sale in the Main Hall at the Great Ryrie Primary School, Great Ryrie St, Heathmont on Sunday March 22nd, 2009. Melway Reference 49-K11

Doors will be open to the public from 10:30am.

There will be new and used communications equipment for sale, as well as other electronic components.

Commercial traders will be on hand with the latest "state of the art" communication technology on display.

BBQ food, soft drinks, coffee, tea, cake etc. will also be available on the day.

The Adult \$6 entry fee includes a "bottomless cup" of tea &/or coffee.

Children under 12 will be admitted free of charge.

For further information contact:
Colin VK3KWM on 0414 879 682 or
E-mail: wes2009@emdrc.com.au

PFA NEWS

Chocolate Drive

Reminder: Chocolates are \$1.20 each (\$57.60 per box) this year and the money is due back on 25 March.

If you are able to sell more than one box of chocolates, please let Janine know and she'll arrange for another to be given to your child.

Hot Cross Bun Orders

Thanks to Bakers Delight in Heathmont as we are again offering Hot Cross Bun for sale. Order forms were sent home last Friday. Orders are due back on Friday 27 March.

Easter Raffle

We will be holding our annual Easter raffle soon with a huge basket of Easter chocolate as first prize, with second and third prizes too.

With thanks
Karen Beecher.

**Canteen
Special Easter Lunch**

The Canteen is offering an Easter Lunch on 1st April (Wednesday) to celebrate Easter. There is a choice of two savory meals. One is 2 party pies and the other is 6 chicken munchies (please see the attached order form for details). Jolly Easter eggs will be given as special gift. Please complete the order form and return it to the Canteen before 30th March.

Community Notices

Is there some good news in your family that you would like to share with the rest of GRPS? A new addition to the family, a win in a Grand Final, a great sports game Let Yvonne at the office have the details by Wednesday morning and we'll let everyone know!!

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

16 March 2009

| | | |
|------|---|----------------------------|
| 1M | - | Ryan Taggart |
| 1S | - | Renee Egan |
| 2E | - | Matthew Cai |
| 2F | - | whole class |
| 2H | - | Nicholas Graham |
| 2J | - | Hayley Friend |
| 2K | - | Clayton Wright |
| 2M | - | Lisa Steinman |
| 2R | - | Ner Der Lert Sein |
| 2T | - | Molly Rigg |
| 3E | - | Bailliee Potter-Cook |
| 3G | - | Georgia Millington O'Dwyer |
| 3M | - | Jessica Bowers |
| 3N | - | Jake Holdway |
| 3S | - | Sally Faircloth |
| 4B | - | Lachlan Kewley |
| 4F | - | Monie Huynh |
| 4H | - | Ashleigh Hudson |
| 4J | - | Aaron Last |
| 4M | - | Zoe Whitby & Harry George |
| 4W | - | Amber Englehardt |
| LOTE | - | Adam Holleley (3G) |

Artists of the Week -

Harry Egan (4H) and Arthur Foo (4M)

☺ Congratulations to our 2009 Sports Managers:

-Jarred Muller-Dobbe -Taylor Grimmert
-Arthur Foo -Jayden Ilic
-Maddie Bosch -Molly Florence

☺ Congratulations to Lachlan Kewley (4B), Luke Mitchell (3N) and Andrew Bialecki (4B) for qualifying for the State Championships, Track and Field to be held at Olympic Park this weekend.

☺ Goooooo RED!!!

Congratulations to everyone in Red House on another great win for the week. Keep up the good work. Well done to all the other houses too.

Goooooo RED --- from Lachlan Kewley and Hayley Morrow

LIBRARY

BOOK BORROWING

As the end of term is fast approaching could all library books please be returned during the last week of term.

Overdue notices will be sent home starting early next week.

BOOK CLUB

BOOK CLUB ISSUE 2 MARCH will hopefully be delivered late this week.

SPECIAL EASTER ISSUE FROM SCHOLASTIC

Scholastic has issued an extra catalogue in Term 1 with all items discounted, so if you would like to order from this special issue please ensure that you have your order and payment in by WEDNESDAY 25TH MARCH, so delivery can occur before the school holidays.

Happy readingMardi Pechar



Wednesday 25 March is National Ride2School Day

As we get closer to National Ride2School Day a few reminders for the day include:

- Riders to wear helmets
- Bike locks are recommended

Parents can join in the fun by walking, riding or wheeling with students.

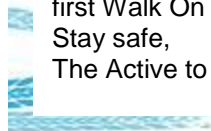
Being active on the way to school has many benefits:

- Students feel fresh and more alert at the beginning of the school day.
- There are fewer cars on the road, reducing congestion and greenhouse gases.
- Students can participate in the recommended '60 minutes of moderate activity each day' on the way to and from school.
- Students feel happier, are healthier and perform better at school.

We look forward to you participating in the first Walk On Wednesday (WOW) for 2009!!

Stay safe,

The Active to School Committee



UNIFORM SHOP

During the year the Uniform Shop is open:-

MONDAY 8.30am-10am

FRIDAY 3.20pm-4pm

If you need to purchase items of uniform and cannot make it during these hours please fill in the order form, obtainable from the office, and pay by either cash, cheque (made payable to Great Ryrie Primary School) or credit card/EFTPOS at the office, and I will fill the order and send home with your child as soon as possible, depending on availability of stock.

SECOND-HAND UNIFORMS

If you have clothes that your children have grown out of and are in good condition they would be most welcome at second-hand uniforms.

All second-hand uniforms are FREE, so please look through the boxes located outside the Uniform Shop during opening hours.

Thank-you,
Mardi Pechar

WATER TANKS:

Our water tanks have now been installed: 2 X 45000 litres. After last week's rain they are starting to fill up. The water from these tanks is being used to flush the children's in toilets and to water the vegie gardens.



These water tanks were installed using a grant provided by the Federal Government's Green Voucher Program.

Maroondah Photo Competition 2009

Would you like to own a new digital camera, go on a shopping spree at Eastland or have a free trip to the movies?

You could win one of these prizes in the Maroondah Photo Competition.

The competition is open to all ages (parents too) and closes 30 June 2009.

Entry forms are available from the front office.

JUNIOR SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS

Our first big event has been decided. Monday 30th March, 2009 is the date! When???? After assembly in the quadrangle.

EASTER HAT/FANCY HAT PARADE

Design and create your own hat using feathers, streamers, balloons, cut out Easter Bunny ears, cellophane, pipe cleaners etc. Students in each level will parade around the quadrangle wearing their Easter Hat/Fancy Hat. The JSC will award one prize per level for THE most creative hat. Please bring a gold coin donation. All proceeds will go directly to the Royal Children's Hospital Good Friday Appeal.

Did we mention that it's also FREE DRESS?!



sTaY tUnEd FoR FuThEr DeTalls from JSC

OSHClub

Great Ryrie Out of School Hours Care

Welcome to 2009!

Before and After School Care has begun for the New Year, and we are still accepting 2009 enrolment forms.

As we are fast approaching first term holidays, Holiday Program enrolment forms are now available.

The easiest way to enrol your child at either Before and After School Care or Holiday Program is online at:

www.qjp.com.au

Regards, Jacob Kogelman – Coordinator

Reminder

To contact OSHC (Out of School Hours Care) please telephone them direct on:

0418 571 136

Level 2 are planting

The plants they raise will be going to schools in the burnt areas of Victoria.

To help nurture the plants they are asking for clean, empty soft drink bottles. If you are able to give some to Level 2, please deliver them to Mrs Robbins (room 1).

Thank you from everyone in level 2

PAID ADVERTISEMENTS

The Department of Education, Employment and Training and Great Ryrie Primary School do not endorse the products or services of any private advertiser.

No responsibility is accepted by DEET and Great Ryrie Primary School for accuracy of information in advertisements or claims made by them.

COMMUNITY BUSINESS PARTNERSHIPS

We would like to acknowledge and thank the following sponsors.
(For more details please see our website!)

Century 21 UNLIMITED Real Estate Agents, Ringwood East, offer a \$250 referral fee to members of the school community (*with a further \$250 going to Great Ryrie Primary School*).
Contact Jenny for more information on:
0433 770 676

AMAZING TRANSFORMATIONS COSTUME HIRE kindly donate all the wonderful costumes we use for school functions.
33 High Street Glen Iris, 9885 4714

BAKERS' DELIGHT, HEATHMONT donates all the bread requirements for school.
144 Canterbury Road. Phone: 9738 0322

BEAUTY ON RYRIE donate many beauty products and vouchers for all school fundraisers and events.
41B Great Ryrie St Ringwood, 9870 6766

The Roberts family offers a **DRY CLEANING SERVICE** to the GRPS community, with a percentage going to school fundraising.
Please call at the office for details.

ENJO - CLEAN THE WORLD
Lucinda Murphy donates goods and commissions to GRPS through ENJO with 10% of all sales going towards the school!
Call Lucinda on 0412 621 214

BENDIGO COMMUNITY BANK (East Ringwood Branch) sponsor our school and along with Student Banking offer a donation of \$150 for all home loans and a donation of \$50 for all personal loans and car leasing arrangements referred through the school.

All Smiles of the Yarra Valley are major sponsors of our fundraising events.
21 - 23 Delaneys Rd, Warranwood, The Yarra Valley, Victoria 3134. Phone: 9876 4044
www.allsmiles.com.au

Hot Chilli Thai Restaurant Proudly sponsor our food fairs and support other school functions!
17 Maroondah Hwy
Croydon 3136 VIC
Phone: (03) 9870 1862

SOUTHWOOD NETBALL

Players interested in playing in 9 & Under age group DOB 2000, 2001 and players in the 13 & Under age group DOB 1996.
The Under 11 team is also looking for girls interested in playing netball.
Contact Lynda on 9738 0226 or Cindy on 98794420.

SCHOOL BANKING – PIGGY ACCOUNTS

By now all students would have received a Ringwood East Community Bank School Banking pack. Great Ryrie Primary School offers your children the easy availability of school banking through Ringwood East Community Bendigo Bank.

In order to take up this opportunity, all new applicants are required to complete the forms from your pack and bring along both parents and children's identification to one of the account opening sessions listed below:

Session 2:

Date: Friday 20th March 2009
Where: In front of school Library
Near Main Office
Time: 2.30-3.30pm

Don't forget to send your school banking every Wednesday during school term.

And watch your money grow!!



Craftworks

*Come and learn a new craft :
Stylish Beaded Ear Rings, a Paperweight
and 'Easter Cup Cake', a Pebble Mosaic
Plant Pot and a Silk Rose Flower Brooch.*

Creche available.

*Tuesday mornings 17th, 24th and 31st
March.*

9.15 - 11.45 am.

*Ringwood Uniting Church
Cnr Station St and Greenwood Ave
Ringwood*

*For more details contact
Judith 9870 8963.*

Mullum Mullum Festival 22, 28&29 **March.**

Activities for the whole Family

22nd March will be an almost wholly indigenous event. Aboriginal BBQ and damper from 11am - 4pm. Traditional games for kids, art exhibits, basket weaving with Aunty Dot or yarn (chat) with members of the stolen generations, guided walks and more. Wurundjeri Elder Aunty Doreen will present a welcome to country approx 1pm. **Venue: Yarren Dheran** Visotrs centre Ashburton Drive & end Wattle Valley Drive Mitcham (Mel Ref 49B6). See full week program, school notice board / office or follow link:
http://home.vicnet.net.au/~mulfest/mm2009_program.htm

READY SET GO! Performing Arts School



Classes in a fully equipped studio close to Great Ryrie P.S. We are looking for boys & girls to join the following classes: Junior Popstars (Grade 1-6), Boys Only Tap (7 yrs+), Children's Broadway class (Grade 2 up), Boy's Breakdance (Grade 2 up), combo classes funky jazz/tap/ballet(from 3 – 12yrs), and Teen Hip Hop. Classes start from only \$6 per week.

Call 0419 586 198 to book your child in now.



Where **CHAMPIONS** Begin

Visit aflauskick.com.au

Marlborough/Great Ryrie Auskick

The Cats have done it again...

Still smarting from last years humiliating defeat to the never-say-die Hawks, the irrepressible Geelong Football Club have maintained some face by winning the NAB pre-season cup. Whilst it may only be a tokenistic win to some, smashing the Pies in any form of the game can only bring a smile to ones face!

And so we get ready to reconvene for another fabulous Auskick season, to groom some future champions of our own.

Registration day details:

DATE: Saturday **28 March 2009**
Time 9.30am to 11.00am
Place: Marlborough Primary School,
Hardy Cres, Heathmont 3135

Log on to www.aflauskick.com.au and follow the registration links for more information (we are under postcode 3135). ***Remember, if you register on-line before 4 April, you will receive free 2 children and 2 adult tickets to an AFL game during the season**

THE CALL GOES OUT

After 5 years of coordinating our great clinic, the time has come to move on and pass the reigns to some new thinkers. During the year, I will be seeking a coordinator to take over from 2010.

If you are at all interested, please give me a call to discuss what is involved. One thing is guaranteed: it is a very, very enjoyable gig!

Regard,
Shane Smith
(0411 657 554)