

MAY 2021

# P&C NEWSLETTER

Updates from Russell Lea Public School Parents & Citizens Association

## Dates for your Diary

**Wednesday 2nd June**

School Open Day

**Tuesday 8th June, 7:30pm**

P&C General Meeting – School Hall

**Coming soon in June**

Year 6 run sausage sizzle - date tbc

P&C Pie Drive - orders & delivery

**Thursday 29th July**

School's 90th Anniversary Celebration

**Friday 30th July**

P&C Trivia Night

## TERM 2 NEWS

For a lot of families, Term 2 means a switch to winter sports schedules and a dig around the closet to find winter uniform items that may or may not still fit! At school, it's the time of year for the cross country and athletics carnival. The weather forecast for Wednesday's rescheduled athletics carnival is looking promising. I hope everyone has a fun day participating in the track and field events. Congratulations to those cross country place-getters who will be representing RLPS at the zone event in late May.

The students have a busy term with various incursions, excursions and even a school camp to Canberra for those in Stage 3. There are even more extra curricular activities taking place during lunchtimes this term. Junior band sessions commenced, there's an additional drama class as well as choir now taking place on Fridays. Thank you to Colleen O'Connell (Molly KH) for leading the choir and Teaching Services Australia for moving junior band to Thursday lunchtime to avoid clashing with PSSA.

### THANK YOU

The P&C were very pleased to be able to run the Mother's Day Stall after not being able to hold one in 2020. We hope all the mums and grandmothers enjoyed their special day and loved their gifts. A huge thank you to Wendy Shih, who pulled it all together and thank you to the team of helpers - Livia, Amanda, Janet, Andy, John and Trev. The P&C run the stall purely for the children who enjoy selecting items for their mum/grandmother. Thanks to all the RLPS families who participated this year.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

The P&C Fundraising and Sponsorship team have been hard at work planning a fun night for parents. The themed Trivia Night on Friday 30th July will be one of the two major fundraisers this non-fete year.

We are seeking sponsors, donations and volunteers. If you are able to help please [email](#) us or fill out this [form](#). Find that old rah rah skirt, acid wash denim or preppy pastel outfit and join us on for an evening of 80s & 90s Trivia and more. Further details coming soon!

The 90th Anniversary Sub-Committee confirmed the date for their celebration event. Note Thursday 29th July in your diaries and look out for more information in the coming weeks. Former students are invited to share photos and memorabilia, like these classics from 1985 of athletics day and book week.



RLPS 90th  
Celebration Event  
Thursday, 29 July,  
2:15pm – 5:15pm  
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Stage 1 Performance  
Naming of the Library  
Opening of the archives  
Afternoon tea



# MAY P&C MEETING SUMMARY

Some information to share from our meeting on 11th May:

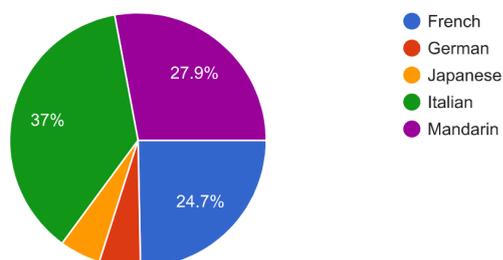
**Wangal AV Project** – as our school hall can no longer accommodate audience numbers for performances or presentation days, the P&C will be investigating the costs involved in fitting out Wangal with a suitable AV system. We have three dads in the industry who are part of the project team so we are drawing on their expertise and connections! Additional staging pieces will also be costed as part of this project.

**Grants Update** - our Grants Officers reported that there are some current grant opportunities to consider. An application for a Canada Bay Council grant (for non infrastructure projects) was recently submitted with the outcome announced in June. This submission was for an Indigenous art mural for the wave sculpture (by the office entrance) along with some signage with acknowledgement of country. If successful, the P&C and school will each match the grant amount to cover the anticipated project costs. Thank you Davina and Rebecca for your work on this application and exploring the other current grant opportunities. With the playground project being a staged process, consideration was given to the timing of certain applications. Targeted submissions will be made in the 2022 grant round when we have more detailed specifications and knowledge of our requirements.

**Language Survey results** - Debbie reported that there were 154 responses to the survey with a strong indication that Italian is the preferred language. Results copied below.

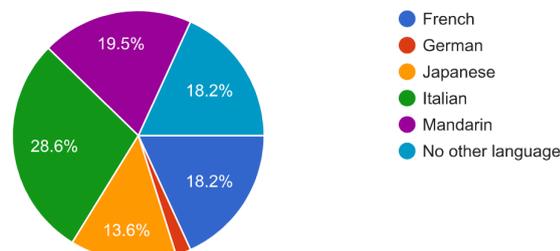
What language would you like your child to learn?

154 responses



If your first language was not offered please indicate if there is another language you would like your child to learn

154 responses



Due to this outcome, an Italian language provider has been contacted. An Expression of Interest will soon be circulated with more information about classes and costs.

**Year 6 Graduation Committee** - there are plans being made for a sausage sizzle on a Wednesday lunch time in June and a movie night one evening in Term 2. Recent Holey Moley round was a great success.

**Playground Committee** - Scope completed with Mr Sprange. Consultation with students and playground consultant to be scheduled soon. Keith Stead (Lucy 1/2P), landscape architect will be a parent rep.

## OOSH update | Belinda Maroun, Area Manager Kids @ Weldon

We were joined at our meeting by Belinda who reported several updates:

- the service is progressing through their national quality standards assessment
- vacation care program will be communicated within the coming 2-3 weeks, more excursions are likely
- vacation care hours are currently 8am - 5pm. Parents will be surveyed to understand the need for 7am - 6pm service during school holidays
- an app is being investigated as a method of communicating with parents, photos can be uploaded to the app
- workshops run by Gavin on creating positive, creative and educational digital videos for children have been well received
- Weldon are looking at recruiting more male educators and have carried out assessments of the upstairs space for potential future use by older students

Contact us: [russell.lea.public.pc@gmail.com](mailto:russell.lea.public.pc@gmail.com) | <https://www.rlps-pandc.com/>

## VALUING THE TEACHING PROFESSION - INDEPENDENT INQUIRY P&C CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED - MARCH 2021

I received a letter from the New South Wales Teachers Federation regarding a recent independent inquiry into the work of public school teachers, headed by Dr Geoff Gallop. The report has four key findings and recommendations for change which are summarised in a brief which can be accessed via this link:  
[https://www.nswtf.org.au/files/21058\\_inquiry\\_parent\\_brief.pdf](https://www.nswtf.org.au/files/21058_inquiry_parent_brief.pdf)

I am mentioning this correspondence as some topics that have been raised at recent P&C Meetings are mentioned within the letter and the attached parent brief document. For example, the increase in the number of students with higher needs and the current limited access to school counsellors for students.

If you would like to understand more about the inquiry and it's recommendations, there is a wealth of information available on the NSW Teachers Federation [website](#).

*See you soon!*  
Narelle Horton  
(Emily 5/6C & April 3/4A)



RUSSELL LEA PUBLIC SCHOOL P&C  
80'S + 90'S  
TRIVIA NIGHT  
6.30PM FRIDAY 30TH JULY 2021

**SAVE THE DATE**