A quality education in a caring, innovative environment  
*September 2015 (Issue 2)*

**Congratulations**
Congratulations to those students who made a fabulous effort at following the school expectations this term. They were rewarded with a ‘wheels day’ where bicycle, scooter and other fun activities were organised during the day. See the photos on page 6.

**In the playground**
There has been so much excitement in the playground as children explore and enjoy the new play equipment at lunchtimes. Through a successful “Be Active” grant (applied for by our wonderful P&C) the equipment was purchased for the children to share. Many children were given an opportunity to say what they would like and the chosen equipment included hula hoops, giant building blocks, a parachute, tunnels, frisbees and high bouncing balls. This week we have also had colourful, long-lasting playground markings laid on our new asphalt under the giant COLA. These markings include handball courts, a snakes and ladders game, ‘What’s the time Mr Wolf’ and hopscotch.

**Spelling bee**
On Monday, 7 September four students competed at the regional spelling bee competition held at Meadowbank Primary School. Congratulations Fatma, Danielle R, TJ and Kuheli who proudly represented our school.

**Sydney West Athletics**
On 9 September two students from our school represented Parramatta-Merrylands Zone at the Regional carnival which was held at Blacktown Olympic Park. Jade competed in high jump and Brendan competed in the 800m race. Congratulations to both of you!
**Bunnings BBQ at Rydalmere**
Thankyou to the P&C and their band of amazing parents who gave up their time to work on the stall last Saturday. Raising $1400 is a fantastic result and this money will help subsidise next term’s whole school Gymnastics program.

**Term 4 Gymnastics Program**
Next term all students will have the opportunity to participate in a weekly Gymnastics program. Last year the children thoroughly enjoyed this experience where they had opportunities to work on strength, flexibility, balance and general fitness. At the same time it was so much fun!! Professional gymnastic instructors will actively occupy your children for an entire session, each Friday for 8 weeks. Students will be required to pay $16 or $2 weekly.

**Riding Develops Abilities (RDA)**
Last Monday, our two ASD classes were lucky enough to visit ‘Riding Develops Abilities’ at Ryde. There they were given the opportunities to pat, feed and learn about the horses.

**Keeping Children Safe**
Recently a young child picked up a syringe found on Maling Avenue. We have explicitly addressed this issue with the students so that they know not to touch or pick one up. We have also advised them to immediately inform an adult.

**Encouraging Independence**
We ask parents of our young K-2 students to step back from the lining up areas in the mornings. We need to encourage independence in the children and allow them to manage the procedure themselves.

**Student Wellbeing**
Congratulations to the following students on achieving Principal’s Awards:

- Silver Level 2: Ruby
- Bronze Level 1: Chloe R
- Bronze Level 2: Caitlyn S, Farshad, Zaid, Jayden M
- Bronze Level 3: Liam

**Please note**
- school photos will be taken on 3rd and 5th November average cost approx. $30
- Years 5 & 6 camp 17-19 November

*Have a wonderful holiday. Staff and students return on Tuesday 6 October*

Lesley Coker & Angelique Brown
Relieving Principals
17 September 2015

**Dates For Your Diary**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 October</td>
<td>Staff and students return for term 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 October</td>
<td>Defence families afternoon tea</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 October</td>
<td>Years 3-6 First Aid course</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 October</td>
<td>Assembly 1:55pm then afternoon coffee</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 October</td>
<td>Gymnastics starts Preschool – Year 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 October</td>
<td>P&amp;C meeting 6:30 Admin building</td>
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Congratulations to Our Ozzie Mozzie Award Winners:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ceyda</th>
<th>Alisa L</th>
<th>Gabriel</th>
<th>Rohan</th>
<th>Venice</th>
<th>William H</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Riley G</td>
<td>Jamaya</td>
<td>Anya</td>
<td>Zoey</td>
<td>Dakota</td>
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**REPS Kids Garden Club**

On Wednesday, last week, we learnt that we have to loosen the soil around the weed before we remove it so we don’t take out a plant. Margaret explained that we shouldn’t use too much water because the plant may rot. We harvested radishes, snow peas and broccoli. We transplanted the violets from the vegetable garden into the tree garden near the carpark. We gave them a good watering.

Lucy, Amilia and Breanna

On behalf of the ‘REPS Kids Garden Club’

**Thank you** to those parents who completed the *Tell Them From Me* survey. Your input is appreciated. The winner of the incentive movie tickets was Mr Gardiner.

**Preschool**

The preschool would like to thank the ASD classes for supplying us with fresh eggs this week. We really enjoyed making and eating egg sandwiches for our lunch. We even sorted our lunch scraps to feed the chickens afterwards.

Thank you to all the families who have placed orders from our toy fundraiser. The orders have now been sent in for processing.
**P&C News**  
**Fundraising BBQ – Spring Fever**

Wow, what a big day! The fundraising BBQ on Saturday 12 September at Bunnings Rydalmere raised **$1400**. This money directly benefits REPS students. The funds raised will subsidise the cost of the gymnastics in Term 4 and the new playground works.

Thank you very much to the wonderful families who helped with the BBQ including Welfare, Thomas/Smith, Barber, Matthews, Gott, De Horta, Jones, Welsh, Garrett, Garcia, Clarke and Kelly families. Particular thanks to René and Marlene Thomas and Suzanne Barber for organising the fundraising and filling in for extra shifts.

**Diary: The last fundraising BBQ for 2015 is Sunday 1 November.**

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**UNIFORM SHOP**

There are plenty of good quality 2nd hand uniforms including both summer & winter dresses, and girls + boys shorts & jackets (all at discounted prices)

New uniforms and bags available for sale

(Price list on the school’s website)

Open Mondays & Fridays (8:30 – 9:00 am)

Cash and cheque accepted

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**The Buddy Bench is coming...**

The Buddy Bench is basically a meeting point for children who are feeling a little left out and looking for friends to play with. Navigating the highs and lows of playground politics can sometimes be overwhelming for children but we hope that with the Buddy Bench the REPS playground will get a whole lot friendlier.

**How the Buddy Bench works:**

If you are feeling lonely and you don’t have anything to do you can go to the Buddy Bench and the idea is that someone will come and ask if you want to play or talk.

If two people are sitting at the Buddy Bench they can ask each other if they want to play.

This bench is not to be used for just hanging or sitting like other ordinary seats. The Buddy Bench has a special purpose, and that is “to help grow our circle of friends.”

As requested by the students, the Buddy Bench is being brightly painted in the red, blue, yellow and green of House colours. It will be in the ready for the start of Term 4.

The P&C hope that new friendships will be made because of the Buddy Bench.

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**GARDEN CARE - WEEDING**

Our school has extensive grounds and lovely gardens for everyone to enjoy. Weeding the gardens is a recurring challenge but can be managed if we regularly do a little bit. All parents and carers are invited to help with keeping the weeds under control. Even just 10 minutes a week, while you are waiting to collect your children can make a difference. If you have any questions or need some guidance please contact repscommunity@gmail.com or Suzanne on 0400474797.
Primary Music Institute and REPS congratulate the following students for progressing up a level in their music lessons Elisha, Seb, Venice, Jun, Jett, Reuban, Clare, Kayla Ann and Rafael.