



Ironbark Ridge PS

1 Ironbark Ridge Road, Rouse Hill, 2155

Phone: 8814 5687

Email: ironbarkrg-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Webpage: <https://ironbarkrg-p.schools.nsw.gov.au>

Nurturing personal growth through inspired learning...



Newsletter 2024

Term 2 Week 1 03/05/2024

Be Safe, Be Responsible, Be Respectful

**** View our 'IRPS Events (Public)' calendar in the School Bytes Parents App or portal ****

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Recent weather has been lovely, allowing us two weeks to relax, recharge, enjoy some outdoor activities and prepare for Term Two... and here we are!

Across our 32 classrooms here at Ironbark Ridge our young learners are continuing to review personal learning goals, reflect on exciting growth already made in 2024, and focus on areas of challenge. In reading, writing, and 'rithmetic (to name but a few), our teachers and students are working collaboratively to continuously set new goals, to struggle and stretch, to level up! At the end of Term 2 we will be sending home Semester One *Learning Progress Reports*, so this is the time to remember that everything we do at school is an assessment, every conversation an opportunity for feedback, and every challenge a chance for growth. That's the Ironbark Way!



ANZAC Spirit at Ironbark Ridge

During the holidays on 25th April several of our Student Leaders represented us by laying a wreath at the ANZAC Day Dawn Service held in Kellyville. They were extremely proud and respectful ambassadors for Ironbark Ridge Public School.

On Tuesday we stopped and assembled as a school to remember and honour all of the fallen service men and women - particularly from Australia and New Zealand - heroes of the many unfortunate conflicts around the world over the past century. Our guest speaker, Lieutenant Colonel Liz Anderson, spoke to our students about the *ANZAC Spirit* and how we can all strive to embody some of these qualities ourselves; virtues such as courage, endurance, initiative, discipline and mateship.

The Ironbark Ridge school spirit is aligned with these honourable traits through our motto: Strength – Respect – Excellence, and also via the 12 Successful Learner Habits we teach and develop in every learner every year. Every fortnight we meet as a whole school before lunchtime on Tuesdays in a virtual/video assembly we call our School Spirit Meeting. During these meetings this term we will be following this thinking to develop in our students ideas for how they can show mateship, develop discipline, use initiative and be strong with endurance and courage.



Successful Learner Habit: Thinking Monitor



One of the key habits developed by successful learners is the ability to monitor our mindsets and thinking patterns. In classrooms we give special responsibility to students for specific tasks and jobs... to develop responsibility. These students might be referred to as the *Computer monitor* – who puts the laptops all on charge so they are ready for use, or the *Lunch-tub monitor* – who makes sure the large tub is out in the playground for students to place their drink bottles and lunch boxes in after they eat. A Thinking-Monitor must always be responsible for their own thinking!

It's time to reach into my backpack of learning strategies and habits...

- Is this a time for special *Focus* in my

classroom?

- Perhaps I need to use my *Collaboration* skills in this activity?
- Ooh, asking for some *Feedback* from my Teacher will take some *Courage*, but I really want to improve!
- Which one of the Successful Learner Habits should I use in this situation right now?

Ridgy the Frog has a wonderful Habit of always thinking about their thinking and monitoring their attitude and mindset so they can maximise their learning and growth; that's why Ridgy is such a successful learner!

Mothers' Day

In preparation for Sunday 12th May I wish all of the Mums in the Ironbark Ridge community a very Happy Mothers' Day. Your leadership, care and organisation ensures our learners (and entire families) are given the environment and opportunity to grow and flourish. We want to celebrate you and thank you so please see the details in the Deputy Principals' message next in this newsletter. I hope to be able to see you in person next Friday morning (10/5) for a fun and tasty breakfast!

**Dads – get in touch to volunteer to help set up, cook and clean away after the breakfast so the Ironbark Mums have an awesome Mothers Day here at school next Friday.

Lateness after 9... Ridgy wants you here on time!

We have begun to record minor lateness (between 9.01 and 9.05am) for our learners this term with the goal of having every student inside every classroom on time, settled and learning together for the maximum number of minutes each day. You may receive an auto-notification through the SchoolBytes Attendance system for a late arrival so please provide acknowledgement and a brief reason if necessary. Thank you for your support in building positive habits and commitment to excellence in our students.

SHS test

Next Thursday morning many of our Year 6 students will be next door in the Rouse Hill HS hall completing the Selective High Schools test. This examination is the final step in a highly-competitive application process for enrolment at one of the *selective* Public high schools across NSW. The exam is extremely difficult and certainly not for everyone, nor does it signify or guarantee any future success for a learner – it is simply one of many pathways students can travel along their schooling journey. Many of our local area Public high school students go on from Ironbark Ridge to score extremely high HSC results on par with their selective high school peers. All the best to our applicants for Year 7 at a SHS next year in 2025.

Looking forward to a term where Ironbark Ridge learners can develop their endurance, courage, discipline, initiative, and of course their mateship with each other,

Nick Thomson

Principal, Ironbark Ridge PS

DEPUTY PRINCIPALS' REPORT

Welcome Back

We hope everyone had an enjoyable break and found the time to rest and recharge their batteries, ready for a busy term of inspired teaching and learning at Ironbark Ridge. The Ironbark community warmly welcome our new students and their families to our school. We hope that you are all settling well and beginning to form strong connections.

To stay well-informed of the many exciting activities and events that our learning community has planned throughout the term, it is important to check our communication channels for details and any updates regularly. To ensure effective communication with our parents and carers, we have several channels available, including our fortnightly newsletter, Facebook posts, School Bytes portal feeds, school emails, electronic signage and class Seesaw messages and posts.

School Development Day

Last Monday, teachers in all Department of Education schools across NSW spent the day engaged in quality professional learning dedicated to curriculum implementation. As a school, we spent the first half of the day further exploring the teaching and learning cycle to support the planning of spelling in English and place value in mathematics, guided by syllabus outcomes and content in the English and Mathematics K-10 syllabus documents.

During the afternoon session, teachers had the opportunity to select from a menu of four professional learning courses to support the teaching and learning in their classroom. These professional learning opportunities included:

- Supporting students with disability in the curriculum
- Assessing and monitoring writing through the curriculum
- English 3-6: Exploring effective pedagogical approaches
- Curriculum planning for every student – EAL/D (English as an Additional Language or Dialect) education

Sports in School Australia (SiSA)

During Term 2, students in Years 3-6 have the opportunity to participate in the Sports In Schools Australia (SiSA) Athletics Program. This program aims to give students the opportunity to learn and practise the skills of each track and field event in preparation for our school athletics carnival later this term. It teaches children the proper technique, safety rules and regulations of each skill in order to maximise their full potential. Many of the stage PDHPE outcomes are addressed throughout this program. Students will participate in a 40 minute session each Monday starting next week, Week 2. The athletics program will run for eight weeks across the term. Students are required to wear their sports uniform each Monday. Please remember that parent/caregiver permission and payment for this activity are due **Friday, 10th May**.

Walk Safely to School Day

Walk Safely to School Day (WSTSD) is on **Friday, 10th May**. It is an annual national event where all primary school children across Australia are encouraged to walk and commute safely to school. It is a community event that aims to promote road safety, health, transport and the environmental benefits that regular walking (especially to and from school) can provide for the long term wellbeing of our children. Research shows that most children state that they would prefer to walk to school. Please view this clip for further details:

[Most children prefer to walk to school](#)

Winter Uniform Changeover

We officially move into our winter uniform on **Monday, 13th May**. However, we would ask that the weather forecast be taken into consideration when dressing your child each day. Remember also that the girl's culottes are part of both the summer and winter uniforms, so they can continue to be worn all year. We encourage all students to take pride in their school. One way to display this is to wear the correct school uniform daily, including wearing school jackets when cold. Hats are a part of our school uniform throughout the year and students are expected to wear them at all times when outdoors.

Mother's Day Stall & Mother's Day Breakfast

Our P&C will run our annual Mother's Day stall on **Thursday, 9th May**. Students will attend this stall at a designated time with their class teacher. Parents are asked to purchase their children's gift vouchers from the Spriggy Schools App. There will be no cash payments available on the day. The closing date for buying vouchers is Tuesday night, **7th May**. Students sitting the **Selective High School Placement Test** will have the opportunity to order their Mother's Day gift from a wide selection of presents on Wednesday and will be given these to take home on Friday.



All families are invited to join us for our annual Mother's Day breakfast on **Friday, 10th May**. Food will be served from 7:30am to 8:30am at the canteen cola. Parents/carers are asked to RSVP using the online form in School Bytes. **Only one completed form is required per family**. Fathers are welcome to volunteer to assist throughout the morning and can indicate this on the online form. Please remember to bring along your smiles, as there will be many opportunities to capture the special moments throughout the morning.

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL)

This fortnight's PBL expectation is **Responsible: Be at School on Time**. Our teachers will continue to be at the gate each morning, reminding students who arrive after 9:00 a.m. of the importance of coming to school before the bell because every minute of school matters. Students who arrive after 9:00am miss the vital start of the school day where organisation for the day is shared and lesson introductions commence.

We have posters visible at our school entry and in classrooms with Ridgy and his friend encouraging us to be on time. When we enter the school gate after 9:00am, students will see the pathways and playground empty as the rest of the school is in their classrooms getting ready for the day's learning.



Kylie Robson and Kerrie Pho
Deputy Principals

KINDERGARTEN CAPERS

With the first week of Term 2 already complete, it has been lovely to see our Kindergarten students settle back into school routines and expectations. We hope you all had a fun, relaxing, and restful holiday!

On Tuesday morning, Kindergarten attended their first school ANZAC Day Ceremony. Despite some unruly weather, it was lovely to see all of our students being responsible and respectful throughout the service. Each class crafted a wreath that was laid down to show our respect for service men and women both past and present.



Term 2 is sure to bring more fun learning and exciting activities. Firstly, our Mother's Day Stall will be held next Thursday, May 9th. Our Ironbark students love being able to "shop" for their special gift for mum at the P&C-run stall. If you would like your child to participate and buy a gift from the stall, vouchers can be purchased on the Spriggy app under 'Events'. We will also hold a Mother's Day breakfast on Friday morning, May 10th.

With the weather becoming cooler, we would like to remind you that we will move into our winter uniform from Monday, May 13th. We do ask you to consider the weather forecast each morning as we still see the odd warmer day in the weeks to come.

Finally, today marks our 50th day of Kindergarten. Halfway to 100, WOW! What a great achievement. We have already seen so much growth in our students and can't wait to see what the next 50 days bring.

We are looking forward to a great term.

Early Stage 1 Teachers



STAGE 1 SNIPPETS

Welcome to Term 2! We hope that all Stage 1 students enjoyed their holiday break and are ready for another exciting term of learning!



On Tuesday, Stage 1 participated respectfully at our whole school ANZAC Day assembly. Classes made beautiful wreaths to place in our ANZAC garden, and reflected on the significance of this day and why it is important to commemorate.



Next Thursday 9th of May, we will hold our Mother's Day Stall! If you would like your child to participate in buying a gift for some special, students will need to purchase their vouchers before the event. These can be purchased through the Spriggy app.



Notices

- In Week 4, we will have our excursion to Rouse Hill Farm and Estate! Year 1 will attend on Monday 20th May, and Year 2 on Tuesday 21st May. Please make sure you have paid and given your child permission if you wish for them to attend.
- As we move into cooler weather, it is important that your child stays warm. Please make sure that all clothing, including jumpers and hats, and items brought to school are clearly labelled with their name.
- Please take the time to check if your child requires any classroom supplies, such as glue, lead pencils, sharpeners, and scissors.

Stage 1 Teachers

STAGE 2 SNIPPETS

Welcome back to Term 2! We missed everyone over the school holidays. This week students and teachers have all enjoyed catching up with each other. We hope that everyone is feeling refreshed and ready to learn.

For this term, you may find some slight changes to when your child is required to wear their sports uniform. Stage 2 are lucky enough to be participating in Sports In Schools (SISA) for fitness on Mondays each week. Permission notes and payment should be available for you to complete any day now on School Bytes. We strongly encourage you to provide this opportunity for your child. Apart from being **SO** much fun, SISA will be teaching our students a variety of skills that will be very beneficial to their participation in our upcoming school athletics carnival. Please refer to the table below to check your class's sport days.

Sport and Library Days

Class	Library	Sport Clothes Required
3F	Monday	Wednesday, Friday
3G	Monday	Wednesday, Friday
3W	Tuesday	Wednesday, Friday
4/3B	Year 3 Tuesday, Year 4 Thursday	Wednesday, Friday
4D	Thursday	Wednesday, Friday
4M	Thursday	Wednesday, Friday
4R	Monday	Wednesday, Friday
4Z	Monday	Wednesday, Friday

Uniform Requirements

As the weather gets colder, please ensure that a labelled jacket is brought to school. Hats should be checked to see that your child's name is still clearly labelled to avoid them getting lost. Every child requires their hat to be able to participate safely in sport sessions, as well as for recess and lunch play.

Please also ask your child if they require any new supplies. In Stage 2, students are expected to bring along their own stationary. Unfortunately, we are finding across classrooms that the few resources teachers have been able to share are now dwindling as so many children have needed to borrow them. Multiple lead pencils and glue sticks will be used throughout the year as we **LOVE** writing and often have work that needs to be stuck securely into our books. Students should also have a sharpener, eraser and scissors in their pencil case. Thank you in advance lovely parents 😊

Wishing our students an **AMAZING** Term 2,

Stage 2 Teachers



STAGE 3 SNIPPETS

Welcome back to Term 2! We hope that you have had some time to rest and recuperate over the holidays and are ready to get straight back into learning.

Canberra Camp

In Week 11 last term our Year 6 students were able to experience an educational tour of our nation's capital, Canberra. Students were given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia's history, culture, heritage, and democracy. The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government contributed funding of \$30.00 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program towards those costs. The rebate was paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion.



Interrelate Program

Interrelate will start next week on Tuesday for our Year 5 students. This is an essential component of Personal Health and Development. The program is run by experts and provides students with a lot of positive information and strategies to support their physical and emotional growth and well-being. It acknowledges personal differences and promotes respect for each other.

SISA

SISA commences next Monday and will occur weekly throughout the term. Students will need to wear their sports uniform and ensure they have their hats to participate. A reminder to make sure that payments are paid before the cut-off date to ensure they can continue participating. Please see below the SISA times for your child's class:

9.40 – 10.20 am

Classes	3 Classes	Class Names	6G, 6I, 5D
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10.20 – 11.00 am

Classes	3 Classes	Class Names	6N, 6W, 5P
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11.30 – 12.10 pm

Classes	3 Classes	Class Names	5T, 5F, 6B
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1.40 – 2.20 pm

Classes	3 Classes	Class Names	5B, 6H, 6K
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Stage 3 Teachers



MOTHERS DAY STALL - Thursday 9th May

Our P&C is happy to announce that we will once again be holding Our Annual Mother's Day Stall!

Let's spoil our mums, Grandmothers and Auntie's with some gorgeous gifts to show them how much we love them!

You can purchase Vouchers through Spriggy **NOW** for this event. Reminders will be given through Facebook & School Bytes as the event draws closer.

Vouchers can only be purchased through Spriggy in the Events Tab – No cash sales. You must have purchased Spriggy vouchers before the cutoff date, to participate in this event. No exceptions.

CUT OFF DATE FOR VOUCHER PURCHASES – **MIDNIGHT TUESDAY 7TH MAY**. Ensuring volunteers have enough time to prepare for the stall on Thursday.

Vouchers cost \$10 for each gift and your child will be able to choose their gift themselves. Each class will have their turn at visiting the stall on Thursday 9th May. You can purchase as many tickets as you like to spoil all the important mother figures in your children's lives! Please pack a Green bag for your child to take their purchases home on the day.

NOTE: When ordering through Spriggy, make sure you choose each Voucher under each individual child's name. Please do not order all vouchers under only one of your child's names. It makes it difficult to track them under each class.

We have some Gorgeous gifts this year! We even have living succulents in Pots!

All funds raised will go back to support our wonderful school!

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED – Any amount of time you can give would be wonderful – this is all run by P&C volunteer parents and not the school. Get a Sneak Peak at Gifts!

- Sunday 5th May Finish Wrapping gifts at School from 11am - 3pm – Block E, First demountable on Left
- Thursday 9th May – Work on the Mother's day stall in the School Hall – Volunteers needed from 8:30am to 1.30pm.

To Volunteer give availability through this link: <https://forms.office.com/r/tqVEb0WYYU>

Any Questions Email Angela or Ramneek P&C Events Coordinators:

IronbarkPandC-Events@IronbarkrgPSPandC.onmicrosoft.com



CANTEEN

Welcome back to Term 2! We hope you all had a good break.

Our Winter Menu returns for 2024. You will notice that we have new Lunch items, which you can order through Spriggy!

You might notice that when you are ordering online that some of our items have increased in price. This is due to our suppliers increasing their pricing, so we have had to adjust our costs accordingly.

Please note that all food items purchased over the counter will now start from \$1.50.

The Canteen Team



WHAT'S ON AFTER SCHOOL AT IRONBARK RIDGE?

The following activities are run in the school grounds by outside companies:

Sydney Academy of Chess – Monday 3.10pm to 4.10pm

[Sydney Academy of Chess](#)

Young Engineers – Thursday 3.10pm to 5.10pm

[Engineering After School | STEM Australia - e² Young Engineers \(young-engineers.com.au\)](#)

Peiji Chinese – Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 3.10pm to 5.10pm

[Blacktown Peiji Chinese School](#)

Talent Club Australia – Wednesday 3.15pm to 5.15pm

[Creative Kids - Talent Club Australia](#)

Northwest Physie – Wednesday 6.30pm to 9pm, Saturday

[NORTHWEST UNITED PHYSIE & DANCE - Home \(weebly.com\)](#)

Teaching Services Australia (music) – Tuesday during school hours

[Teaching Services Australia](#)

Art on Canvas – Monday 3.10pm to 4.10pm

Email: Artoncanvaskids@outlook.com | Facebook: [ArtonCanvasForKids](#)

Please click on the links and contact these organisations directly if you would like more information.

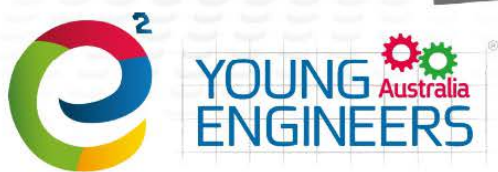
COMMUNITY NOTICES



LEARN MATH AND LAWS OF PHYSICS



ADVANCED ALGORITHMIC THINKING



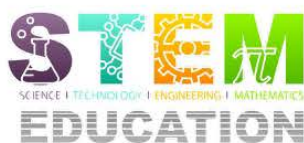
Build Your Tomorrow. Today!

Young Engineers provides practical application of STEM. We aim to ignite students' passion for Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics through hands-on workshops. Weekly sessions demonstrate scientific and coding concepts using Lego® prototypes.

Ironbark Ridge Public School

Term 2 2024 - Every Thursdays

Eligibility	Program Name	Time	Fee	Dates	Book online at
Yr 1 - 2	Build Up	3:10 to 4:40pm	\$240	09/05 - 04/07	www.trybooking.com/CQHBU
Yr 3 - 6	Engineering & Robotics	3:10 to 4:40pm	\$240	09/05 - 04/07	www.trybooking.com/CQHBU



For more information please call 0416 100 089

infonwsydney@young-engineers.com.au
www.nwsydney.young-engineers.com.au

/YoungEngineersNorthWest

APPROVED - CREATIVE KIDS SERVICE PROVIDER!

Use Creative Kids voucher.
 Please go to service.nsw.gov.au for more details.

Engineering & Robotics Program provides theoretical knowledge in software and mechanical engineering combined with mathematics and physics.

Build-Up Program is designed for little children where they start from learning the basics of building Lego Models including improving them and end up building models independently with a friend and enjoying group game.

CHESS!!

Learn to be a chess champion! Coaching for students at Ironbark Ridge Public School is held on:

Beginner/Rookie: Mondays from 3:10pm to 4:10pm, starting on 6 May 2024

Intermediate: Mondays from 3:10pm to 4:10pm, starting on 6 May 2024

Learning and playing chess helps children develop their logical thinking and problem solving skills, improves their concentration and focus, while also being a great source of enjoyment. Activities include group lessons on a demonstration chess board or interactive whiteboard, puzzle solving and fun practice games.

Students earn merit awards by making checkmates, or by displaying skills and positive qualities, which all good chess players strive to develop.

Each student in the Chess program will also receive access to Chess Squad <https://www.chesssquad.com/> which is an online teaching/playing platform.

If your child is interested in taking part in the class, please email office.sydneyacademy@gmail.com for an enrolment form. For all enquiries, please contact Sydney Academy of Chess on (02) 9745 1170.



4-IN-1 COMMUNICATION

Class focus: Each class has a central focus (Drama / Debate / Creative Writing / Public Speaking)

Practice Activities: Students will engage in different activities to encourage creativity and on-the-spot thinking.

Preparation: Students will be asked to prepare an activity based on prompts eg debate topics or storytelling prompt

Presentation: Students will be asked to present their work in front of the class practicing their public speaking skills.

Public Speaking. Creative Writing. Debate.
Drama.



SPEAK WITHCONFIDENCE

SAMPLE LESSON

Focus: Students will be doing activities in each class that focus on one/ or more of these genres of communication. This will be an overarching theme of class/ and activities will be related to improving skills related to communication confidence Eg. persuasive speaking/relating to debate.

Drama Public Speaking Debate Creative Writing

Activity: Students will be doing activities in each class, that encourage on-the-spot thinking and interaction. Eg

- If I ruled the world...
- Cross the circle if you think....explain why...
- I couldn't disagree more...hands up stand up!

Preperation:

Students will be asked to prepare something based on a prompt. This is where the coach can also provide handy tips and tricks to support the students better. E.g. how to structure an argument.

- Should everyone make the school sports teams?
- Should students be allows to pick their own teachers?

Presentation:

Students will be asked to present. This is a critical part of their practice of communication confidence.

Eg.

- Lets split up into two teams and have a mock debate!

ASCA OUTCOMES



Our program learning outcomes are all based on the ASCA learning outcomes. And our in class activities are geared toward helping students achieve this in an interactive and engaging class environment. Some of these outcomes include:

- Demonstrate a confident yet relaxed posture
- Establish eye contact with the audience
- Avoid over-dependence on notes speak clearly and audibly throughout
- Present interesting material with a clear structure
- Convey appropriate, knowledgeable, and extended responses to questions
- Establish a sincere and warm rapport with the audience
- Reflect the literary style with confidence and flair when reading aloud
- Have generous and inclusive eye contact

(tailored to each age group, with deeper layers as skill level improves.)

Our long-term students are given the opportunity to take the ASCA Exams; in which many of our past students have recieved Distinctions and High Distinctions.

REGISTER TODAY!

**TERM 2
DRAWING PROGRAM (K-6)
AT IRONBARK RIDGE PUBLIC SCHOOL**



GREAT FOR:

- RELXATION
- CREATIVITY
- CONCENTRATION
- MAKING FRIENDS
- AND MORE!

PROGRAM DETAILS:

- **Day & time:** Monday 3.10-4.10pm
- **Location:** Inside the school
- **Starting:** Term 2/2024
- **Fees:** \$210 (8 weeks)

**All materials are included.*

**Creative Kids vouchers accepted*

BOOK A SPOT TODAY!

☎ 0424 093 991





After-school fun at Ironbark Ridge Public School



www.codecamp.com.au/ironbark