Hello Rosebery PS families,

Congratulations! You have now completed your very first term as the Rosebery Primary School Community. From my position, it’s been amazing to watch the community come together and enjoy all that our students are achieving. I’d like to take this chance to thank you all for your support and ongoing commitment to us being the best community school in the NT. We’ve had some lovely and very generous feedback from families of late. Our staff have done an incredible job and have certainly earned a week’s rest next week. I’m sure you all join me in thanking them for going “above and beyond” this term.

NAPLAN

In Week 5 of next Term our Years 3 and 5 students will participate in the National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). This is an important testing regime for these students as, these days, schools can gain valuable evidence to better inform learning programs. It’s also important that all of these students participate so we can spot trends in the ways that our students learn over extended periods of time. For students to perform well, they need to be able to relax and feel comfortable about the testing process. Our teachers will prepare the students with practice tests in test conditions, but it’s important that parents help out by avoiding placing too much pressure or expectation upon the students. After all, they are just kids and while the MySchool website is used by many parents to compare schools, NAPLAN certainly isn’t the whole story of your child’s intelligence or what a school can do to prepare students for the future.

Pupil Free Day

Please note that there will be a Pupil Free Day on Monday 11th April. This is the first day of Term 2 and teachers will be working on a day of professional learning about the Kagan Co-Operative Learning strategies that we use in classrooms. There will be no classes on this day. Students return to school on Tuesday 12th April. If you require full day care for your child on this day please visit http://www.topend.ymca.org.au/childserv/bookings/Pages/default.aspx to make a booking or call 8981 8377.

School Council News

We held our first School Council meeting on Monday this week and we had some fabulous discussions, including the development of our draft constitution. It was a very interesting process to examine the rules by which our school will be governed. I would like to thank everyone involved and welcome our Staff representatives – Kym Bracegirdle, Danielle Banicek, Marnie Richards and Shona Henderson. Further, we appointed Stacey Taylor (Secretary) and Anthony Sherwell (Treasurer) to the remaining Executive positions on the council and they join Robyn Bryant as our Chairperson.

School Uniform

Just a quick reminder that school hats and school shorts/skorts are compulsory components of our school uniform. Students without hats are required to sit in the front office during recess and lunchtime as we have a very strong commitment to being SunSmart. Hats are only $12 and can be left at school to avoid the trap of leaving them on the bedroom floor. I hope we have less students sharing their lunchtime with me during Term 2.

Time for a holiday!

I’d like to wish you all a very happy and restful mid-semester break with family and friends. Rosebery PS has come a long way – and you’ve all earned a little rest before we kick off into a productive Term 2.

As always, if there’s anything else you wish to discuss about our school or your child’s education, myself and our Assistant Principal Shona Henderson are always happy to have a chat. We’ll supply the Easter Eggs!

Kind regards,

Adam Voigt
Principal

Every Child, Every Day - improving student enrolment, attendance and participation is everybody’s responsibility and everyone’s business.
Kagan Grundmann, Davis Gabriel-Yak
Lexie Kay, Kia Terrill
Jaxon Hayman, Ebony Woods
Kasey Mortimore, Ryan Jackson
Caitlyn Redshaw, Ashley Morris
Molly Whitehead, Daniel Gabriel-Yak
Noah Redshaw, Tamayah Rosewall
Damon Araujo, Connor Wahlqvist
Navrin Grothues, Alyssa Hancock
Jeremy Grundmann, Kye Woods
Beatrice Wheeler, Gabriel Sayson

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**STUDENT UP DATE**

Last week students were sent home with a family contact up date form. Please ensure that the form is completed and returned to school by Wednesday 13th April. It is important that student records are kept up to date throughout the year.

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**SCHOOL PHOTO’S**

School photo’s went home yesterday (Thursday) with all students. If you have any concerns or queries with your photo’s please contact MSP Photography on 08 8132 1148.

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**Preschool Easter Raffle**

Please find attached a book of 6 Easter raffle tickets.
3 tickets for $2.
Prize: Easter hamper
Drawn Thursday 21st April.
Please return all sold and unsold tickets with money to your classroom teacher by Monday 18th April.

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**Staff Profile**

Principal
Name: Adam Voigt

Background: I’m from Frankston on the Mornington Peninsula near Melbourne. I moved to Darwin with my wife, Anthea, and my two wonderful kids, Ebony and Ronan, in 2004. We were only planning to stay a year or two – but we are very happy here. (The weather is a lot better!)

What do you love about RPS? I love the friendly community feel around RPS and that is provided by the students, families and staff who have all been so enthusiastic about our new school being the best.

What was the last book you read? “The Big Mo” by Mark Roeder. It’s a fascinating book about how momentum is a very important force in today’s world.

What’s the funniest thing that has happened to you? I once bunjee jumped off a bridge at Victoria Falls in Zimbabwe. I couldn’t believe that the instructor had a “Darwin” cap on, but I thought I was being really brave about the 111m drop below me. The video footage of me then showed that I was screaming like a baby for the whole jump – not so brave after all!

What do you like to do in your spare time? I’m a sports nut. In particular I love playing and watching cricket and following my beloved Richmond Tigers in the AFL. I also like camping with my family in the dry season and hanging out with my friends.

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Date Event

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<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 1st</td>
<td>Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 1st</td>
<td>End of Term 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 11th</td>
<td>PUPIL FREE DAY</td>
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<td>Tues 12th</td>
<td>Term 2 Students Resume</td>
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INCLUSION

Inclusion is more than meeting special educational needs. Inclusion is for all students regardless of their strengths or weaknesses; it is to ensure the participation and highest achievement of all groups at risk of underachievement.

At Rosebery we use Cooperative Learning as a powerful way of creating the inclusive classroom/school. It raises the level of ‘quality first teaching’ allowing all students to contribute in a way that can make them feel significant. Students are included in the feeling of belonging among other students, teachers, and support staff.

The very nature of Cooperative Learning with its carefully crafted structures and formation of teams - means it is inclusive.

Teams are heterogeneous - they have a mix of ability, gender, race, socio-economic, and character. Each team consists of a high/high medium/medium low/low ability child. There is no ‘top-table’ status. It is this heterogeneity that gives the structures their power, as a tool, for the teacher to include all the class and to maximize:

- Peer support, students value and respect each other
- Positive race relations
- Relationships between the sexes.
- Effective class management
- Opportunities to practice social skills in context
- Opportunities for students to learn to clarify their thoughts and develop language
- Pupil engagement
- The reduction of discipline problems

AND most importantly, it gives the same learning opportunities to ALL students.

“Inclusion is changing the rules of the game so that everyone can play and everyone can win.”
Richard Villa

Structures can help you create a classroom environment where everyone wants to be!

“Children who learn together, learn to live together.”

Cooperative Learning is fundamental to successfully educating a diversity of learners.”

Cooperative Learning Structures make learning more fun for everyone. There are over 200 structures so the content and objectives of any lesson can be matched to the appropriate structure delivering success for all students.
This year students in Transition will be working using The Walker Learning Approach, by Kathy Walker and Associates. This approach involves using a mix of active hands-on play and project based work as well as whole group/small group sessions. Children spend time reflecting and documenting their learning through drawing maps and diagrams, designing posters, and writing recounts or instructions etc. This approach to learning allows students to write for a purpose.

The Walker Learning Approach is engaging children in exciting and authentic learning experiences that reflect the particular needs, interests and strengths of the individual child. It helps to ensure a greater level of engagement for boys and reduce behaviour issues in the classroom. It also helps to increase rich oral language for all children and integrates literacy and numeracy in all learning experiences.

**Transition Students Hard At Work.**

Rhiley and his camping car design and finished product.